

SOFTBALL CHAMPS!

Lady Rockets earn first-ever 5th District crown | Page 11
2nd Region tourney starts today



USPS 138-260 • MARION KY 42064



Cicadas showing up in parts of Ky.

With devilish red eyes and a chatter that can drown out a train whistle, some of the billions of noisy cicadas living under ground for the last 13 years are already emerging from their subterranean homes this spring.

The arrival of Brood XXIII, or the Lower Mississippi Valley Brood, has already been very active in the Land Between the Lakes area, according to CicadaMania.com. It is unclear what impact this particular brood of bug-eyed insects will have locally.

These periodical cicadas last emerged from late April to early July in 2002 and were spread across western Kentucky and six other states along the nation's longest river. What emerges this year will be the product of the 2002 mating season when the bugs emerged by the billions, climbed anything nearby they could grasp and shed their exoskeletons. After rapidly growing to about an inch with long wings to fly into treetops, they began looking for mates.

Only males screech out their love songs that can reach nearly 100 decibels. This year's brood will live for a few weeks and die off after mating. Their offspring will emerge in 2028.

Cicadas pose no threat to humans, but can damage trees.

'Cats, Blue Devils to battle Nov. 17

Kentucky's men's basketball team will face defending champion Duke and host in-state rival Louisville in a challenging non-conference schedule including road games at UCLA and Kansas.

The Wildcats will also host Arizona State (Dec. 12) and meet Ohio State on Dec. 19 in Brooklyn, N.Y., in the non-league schedule released last week. They open at home Nov. 13-14 against Albany and NJIT, respectively, before meeting the champion Blue Devils on Nov. 17 in Chicago.

Kentucky follows with home games against Wright State, Boston and Illinois State sandwiched around a Nov. 27 meeting in Miami against South Florida, which is coached by former Wildcats assistant Orlando Antigua. The Wildcats face UCLA on Dec. 3 and will host Eastern Kentucky (Dec. 9) and Louisville (Dec. 26) and travel to Kansas on Jan. 30.

City postpones budget meeting

Marion City Council has cancelled its special meeting scheduled for today (Thursday). A new date will be set to vote on the city's budget.

Meetings

- Crittenden County Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at 5 p.m. today (Thursday) at the library.

- Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce meets at 8 a.m. Tuesday at Marion Tourism Center.



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YOUR HOME-OWNED NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879

Census estimates drop in city population

Population drop

Marion's population has dropped more than 300 since 1990, according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates.

YEAR	POPULATION
1990	3,320
2000	3,106
2010	3,039
2011*	3,026
2012*	3,016
2013*	3,005
2014*	3,002

*Estimated figures

STAFF REPORT

The population of Marion, as well as several major incorporated areas in the region, appears to be dropping, according to the latest estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Last Thursday, 2014 population estimates for all 418 incorporated areas in Kentucky were released. The population of Marion appears to be hovering just above 3,000 following a decline over the last quarter-century of more than 300 residents.

The Census Bureau esti-

mated the population of Crittenden County's only incorporated city to be 3,002 in 2014. That's a decline of just three from 2013 estimates, but the population has dropped each year since the 2010 Census count of 3,039.

The recent federal estimates do not worry Marion City Administrator Mark Bryant, who is no stranger to census estimates after a long career in local government.

"A lot of it is based on trends," Bryant said of the estimates. "When you're dealing with a stable population like ours, they'll keep dropping the figures until the next hard count."

The next U.S. Census will be in 2020.

Bryant said measures the city may use to gauge the population, like the number of water customers, do not necessarily reflect the decrease in population shown by the Cen-



Bryant

sus Bureau.

"There's nothing on a daily basis that we have seen to indicate a significant population drop," he said.

However, in 1990, the population of Marion was 3,320. Ten years later, that had fallen to 3,106. Both the 1990 and 2000 Census Bureau figures predate Bryant's time with the City of Marion.

Elsewhere, the population of three of the five largest cities in far western Kentucky

See CENSUS / Page 7

By the numbers...

153 Months since most seniors began kindergarten

3.2 million Estimated number of high school graduates in the U.S. this year

2040 Year of Class of 2015's 25-year class reunion

Distinguished Alumni

The exemplary life's work of each of this year's two Crittenden County Distinguished Alumni inductees involves careers in academia. This year's inductees, William "W.A." Franklin, 75, and Stephanie Kelly, 30, exemplify the very best of ambition, drive and hard work. Both will be recognized Friday at a luncheon for friends and family and again at commencement ceremonies at Rocket Arena.



BACCALAUREATE | Wednesday
CLASS NIGHT | Thursday
COMMENCEMENT | Friday

Franklin leaves esteemed mark on education

By CHRIS EVANS

PRESS PUBLISHER

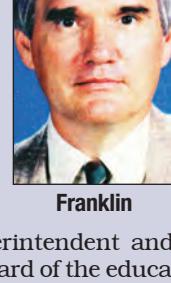
William "W.A." Franklin began blowing the horn at Marion High School back in the 1950s. He did it because he loved music.

By the time Franklin was a young professional in the education business, folks far and wide were trumpeting his successes. Readers Digest saw it. President Ronald Reagan recognized it. Offspring Magazine singled him out, and so did countless others along his path of near perfection as a teacher, principal, professor, superintendent and, indeed, a pioneer and steward of the educational process in Kentucky and beyond.

For the same reasons Franklin began blowing a trumpet in high school, he became an outstanding educator. It was because he loved it. Teaching was his passion.

On Friday, Crittenden County School District will honor Franklin as a Distinguished Alumnus. He will be recognized during a luncheon at Rocket Arena and will be among those near the podium during commencement later that night.

Franklin grew up in downtown Marion. He attended school two blocks from his home. He went to Fols Hall, then Marion



Franklin

Kelly's research helping to blaze science trails

By DARYL K. TABOR

PRESS EDITOR

At 30, Stephanie Kelly is the youngest graduate from Crittenden County to be chosen as a Distinguished Alumnus. And she almost certainly holds the longest job title.

"My official title is a bit ridiculous because I wear several hats, but it's Assistant Professor of Business Communication and Director of the Business Communication Center at North Carolina A&T State University, Chair of the Instructional Development

Division at the Southern States Communication Association and Vice-Chair of the Instructional and Developmental Communication Division at the International Communication Association," Kelly wrote in a recent e-mail.

For the sake of brevity, she pares it down to Assistant Professor of Business Communication and Director of the Business Communication Center.

In short, the 2002 graduate of Crittenden County High School is an assistant professor at the agriculture and technical college in Greensboro, N.C., where she has been since 2012 after earning her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee. But her work goes



Kelly

Foster, Beavers lead class of 79 CCHS graduates

By JASON TRAVIS

STAFF WRITER

In the pursuit of academic excellence, hard work and dedication is required. That's especially true at the high school level, where students have to focus on their coursework while preparing for future college and career opportunities.

At graduation ceremonies this week, the valedictorian and salutatorian of the Class of 2015,

Cole Foster and Lauren Beavers, will share their thoughts on the achievements reached during their public education as well as their hopes for their own futures and that of their classmates. They will be among the 79 graduates of Crittenden County High School to receive diplomas this year.

Foster, the son of David and Teresa Foster of Burna, said being named valedictorian of his class is the achievement of a personal goal he set years ago. He plans on attending Harding University, a private liberal arts Christian university in Searcy, Ark., to study mechanical engineering.

Foster's high school activities have included participation on the Blue Knight's Chess Team, speech team, FBLA and Beta Club. He was also vice president of FFA. He said balancing extracurricular activities with Advanced Placement and dual credit courses was a challenge he was proud to accomplish.

The teen's favorite high school memories include participation in the Governor's Scholar program on the campus of Morehead State University.

His dream job would be a career in design engineering while owning a small business. By age 40, he would like to be able to work from home while maintaining his family's farm.

Foster named President Theodore Roosevelt as



Foster



Beavers

See GRADUATES / Page 2

Crittenden 1 of 28 counties better off than before Great Recession

STAFF REPORT

Most of Kentucky has still not recovered from the Great Recession despite a steady decline statewide in unemployment.

While all 120 counties experienced a drop in their jobless rate from March 2014 to March 2015, according to the Kentucky Center for Economic Policy (KCEP), only 28 had more people at work in March of this year than in March 2007, before the 18-month recession hit in December 2007.

While more than three-quarters of the state continues to struggle to recover jobs lost in the recession, Crittenden County is one of the few counties to have more people at work

today than in the months just prior to the economic crash.

"We are fortunate our unemployment has stayed below the state average during that time period," said Terry Bunnell, president of Crittenden County Economic Development Corp. "I think it's due to the opportunities we have here with our industrial base."

An interactive map on KCEP's website, KyPolicy.org, shows Crittenden County had 127 more people at work in March 2015 than exactly eight years prior. Of the surrounding counties, none showed an increase in employment over that period. In fact, both Livingston and Caldwell counties showed huge losses in the job market,

1,250 and 1,313 fewer jobs, respectively.

Bunnell largely credits Par 4 Plastics and Siemens with adding about 150 jobs since the recession began. Most of the products made by each manufacturer are shipped out of the county for use, which has helped insulate the local economy while other counties have struggled, he said.

But Bunnell does not discount the jobs added by small businesses over

the same period.

"We've been very fortunate in that we've had some opportunities to grow all those businesses," he said.

Only Breathitt and Elliott counties in Appalachia showed a higher percentage of job losses – 31 percent and 33 percent, respectively – than Livingston County's 27 percent from March 2007 to March 2015.

KCEP uses figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and local area unemployment statistics.

Most of the job gains, according to KCEP's interactive map, have been in counties in the so-called Golden Triangle, and area between Lexington, Louisville and Covington.



Bunnell

High school dropout age raised to 18 this fall

FROM STAFF AND AP REPORTS

For years, 16- and 17-year-old Kentucky students could drop out of high school and never look back. That's not the case anymore. Beginning in August, students in Crittenden County will have to stay in school until they are legally considered an adult.

Last year, Crittenden County Board of Education approved moving its mandatory school attendance age to 18 beginning with the 2015-16 school year. The policy change was sparked by the so-called "Blitz to 96" campaign, which was an effort to

More on schools

- High school students getting jump on college and careers, Page 8.
- Local school district offers free meals to youth this summer, Page 10.

get 96 school districts in Kentucky to adopt the higher compulsory attendance age of 18. Once 96 school districts adopted the policy, it became law that all school districts would adopt a policy on compulsory attendance within the next few years.

Now, school districts

across the state are tracking down dropouts to tell them they must return to school this fall because of the new law. The Lexington Herald-Leader reports. School districts must make sure all students are enrolled unless they receive their GED by June 30.

As of January, all 173 public school districts in Kentucky had approved the policy. All but seven of the districts will start applying the law this fall.

In the last several years, Crittenden County School District has taken a proactive

approach to lowering the dropout rate by creating Pathway Academy in 2008. The program gives students an opportunity to study and earn their high school diploma in an alternative setting. To date, more than 60 students have graduated from Pathway Academy.

However, keeping teens invested in their education still provides a challenge. School district officials said that during the 2013-14 school year, eight students dropped out of high school.

According to the department, the state's public high school dropout rate in 2013-14 was 2.3 percent.

During the current school year that ends Friday, four students dropped out in Crittenden County. Most of them have either obtained a GED diploma or have reached age 18.

"Even though we are not happy with losing four students this school year, I am pleased to see our numbers trending in the right direction," Superintendent

Vince Clark said. "I think this is the result of extended counseling efforts with at-risk high school students, increased efforts to grow our College/Career Readiness opportunities and increased ownership of our students in their learning. It is important for our school and our community to work together to keep students in school so they can contribute to their community after they graduate."

Clark said there is one recent dropout who will have to obtain a GED by June 30 or return to the high school in the fall or Pathway Academy.



Clark

Word on the street...

With graduation set for Friday, we hit the streets to ask some of this year's graduates what they plan to do after high school.



Nathan Burnett:
"I am going to work on a tug boat, and I'm planning to work my way up to a pilot."



Megan Manns:
"I'm going to UK to major in social work with a minor in journalism."



Chelsea Oliver:
"I am going to Paducah to be a registered nurse."



Joey Shewmaker:
"I am going into the military – the Marines – to be on an aircrew."



Paige Winterheimer:
"I'm going to be an eye tech. I have to get trained and take an eye test."

GRADUATES

Continued from Page 1

the person, living or dead, who he would most like to meet. He said his parents, church family and high school agriculture education instructor Larry Duvall are who have most positively influenced his life.

Beavers is the daughter of Rhonda Beavers and the late Donnie Beavers of the Mexico community. In the fall, she

plans on attending Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green and majoring in accounting. Her goal is to earn her master's degree and become a certified public accountant.

Like Foster, Beavers' favorite memory was spending the summer attending the Governor's Scholar program. She said writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, most noted for penning "The Great Gatsby," is the

person, living or dead, she would most like to meet.

Beavers' high school activities have included being executive president of student council, yearbook editor, president of Beta Club, FBLA historian and cheerleading captain, as well as being a member of the pep club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

She credits her mother for having the biggest influence in her life.

"She has set a perfect example as a caring, giving and Godly woman," Beavers said.

She credits Advanced Placement courses like U.S. history and calculus for best preparing her for the rigors of a post-secondary education.

Beavers and Foster will deliver their addresses at today's (Thursday) and Friday's graduation ceremonies, respectively, which each begin at 6 p.m. at Rocket Arena.

FRANKLIN

Continued from Page 1

High School. An early member of the band, Franklin evolved into a star athlete and a decorated student.

"The school was just a stone's throw from my house, and I mean that literally," recalls Franklin, 77, who grew up on Second Street in a home his family built following World War II.

His parents had lived for a time in Evansville, Ind., where his father worked building wartime ships and his mom making airplane wings. The Franklins settled on Second Street when their son started fourth grade.

"I consider myself to be deeply honored," Franklin said after learning that he was chosen as one of Crittenden County's most distinguished graduates. It had been a while since Franklin was schooled here – he graduated in 1956 – but he visits often and remains close to friends here with whom he grew up.

"I love Marion, and who I am is because of Marion," Franklin explained. "My whole career, I owe it to the start I had in that little town."

Franklin said he learned Latin, music, chemistry, geography and received a well-rounded secondary education in his hometown.

After earning undergraduate and graduate degrees at Murray State University in the early 1960s, Franklin became a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville where he was also a visiting lecturer. Through ROTC, Franklin earned a lieutenant's commission and served three years in the U.S.

Army. That experience afforded him some great leadership opportunities that would benefit his entire career in education.

Franklin started teaching geography in Colorado right out of the military, but soon took a professorship at Murray State. He has also taught at Western Kentucky University and served as assistant principal at Ohio County, principal at Bowling Green High School and principal and superintendent at Murray Independent Schools.

While climbing the ladder of success in education, Franklin fundamentally changed the way some schools did business. His innovations were not without controversy, but they worked. And that is why his name has become synonymous with education in the commonwealth.

Franklin was perhaps at his best when he became principal at the troubled Bowling Green High School in 1982. Within a few years, he had solved many of the district's biggest problems. In the shadow of Western Kentucky University, the community had lost confidence in the Bowling Green school system. Under Franklin's leadership, Bowling

Green went from among Kentucky's worst schools to one of its best. Attendance spiked, test scores went up and students began going to college. Franklin rebuilt a relationship with Western Kentucky University, and leaders throughout the community marveled at his handiwork.

Among his personal letters and papers are notes from governors, congressmen, legislators, college presidents and more.

In 1990, Readers Digest selected Franklin as one of 10 "American Heroes in Education." In a publication to recognize the heroes, Readers Digest said, "When he joined Bowling Green High School in 1982, W.A. Franklin found a faculty that resisted change, a lack of discipline among students, poor attendance and a curriculum that had not been updated in 10 years."

Before he left there in 1992, Franklin had completely transformed the school into one of the finest in Kentucky. The year before he arrived, Bowling Green had 10 students achieve perfect attendance. He brought a new policy to the school: Don't miss a day and you don't have to take final exams. Sure, there were critics, but the mes-

sage was clear: It's important to be in school. Perfect attendance soared to more than 500 students, and 80 percent of the high school seniors were college bound.

In 1992, President and Mrs. Reagan honored Franklin at a White House ceremony for having one of the 10 "U.S. Exemplary Drug Awareness Programs" in high schools.

"Nancy met with us first and she said, 'Ronnie' – and that's what she called him – is so busy he might not make it.' But, he did show up a short

time later and spent probably a half hour chatting with us about everything under the sun," recalled Franklin about his visit to Washington, D.C.

Eight years later, Offspring Magazine noticed his work, too. It selected Murray Independent Schools as one of the 100 best school districts in the country. Franklin was its superintendent.

Franklin founded the Mid-America Remote Sensing Center at Murray State, which has grown since its inception more than 30 years ago. The center

is operated by faculty, staff and students who scrutinize many aspects of landscape and environment change associated with watershed environments, large reservoirs and mountain-top mining, as well as the human impacts of urbanization and the historical occupancy of the Southeast.

Franklin authored the Regional Atlas of the Jackson Purchase, Kentucky, plus many other publications, papers and presentations delivered for various professional settings.

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Crittenden County Schools will be participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). SFSP is administered by the Kentucky Department of Education, School and Community Nutrition and provides one FREE meal per day for children while school is not in session. SFSP will run Monday through Friday June 4-30. All children ages 1 through 18 may participate. All meals are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Please see the list below to find a lunch site and time near you!

• Crittenden County High School Multipurpose Room	• Unity General Baptist Church
11:00 am – 1:30 pm	11:00 am – 11:30 am
601 W. Elm St. Marion, KY	4691 HWY 641 Crayne, KY
• Brookcliff Mobile Home Park	• Mexico Baptist Church
11:00 am - 11:20 am	11:45 am – 12:15 pm
Brookcliff St. Marion, KY	175 Mexico Rd. Marion, KY
• Belleville Manor Apartments	• Frances Presbyterian Church
11:30 am – 11:50 am	12:30 pm – 1:00
819 Terrace Dr. Marion, KY	32 Marion Rd. Frances, KY
• Creekside Apartments	• Dycusburg United Methodist Church
12:00 pm – 12:20 pm	1:15 pm – 1:45 pm
100 Creekside Circle Marion, KY	70 Spring St. Dycusburg, KY
• Williams' Mobile Home Park	• Tolu Community Center
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	2:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Pigeon Dr. Marion, KY	6238 St. Rt. 135 Tolu, KY

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Call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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- Pee-Wee Weekend (4-7) June 19-21 \$30
Director: Ricky Collins
- Teen Week (14-18) June 21-27
Director: Alan Bush
- Middle School (11-13) June 28-July 3
Director: Michael McDavid
- All Ages Week #2 (8-18) July 5-11
Director: Trent McManus
- Elementary (8-10) July 12-17
Director: Mark Porter
- All Ages Week #3 (8-18) July 19-24
Director: Stan Colley

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Marion, KY 42064

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Application
includes camp rules
and dress code.

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(270) 965-5126



NEWS BRIEFS

Annual ceremony remembers officers

The memory and sacrifice of Kentucky's officers killed in the line of duty was honored last Thursday at the Department of Criminal Justice Training's annual law enforcement memorial ceremony in Richmond.

Gov. Steve Beshear remarked that Kentucky is represented by some of the best men and women sworn to,

"fairness and equality, safety and justice."

"They are a reminder to the public of the flesh and blood – the human shield – that separates society from utter lawlessness," Beshear said.

Last year marked another historic year where Kentucky suffered no sworn officer, line-of-duty deaths. However, this year's ceremony honored seven Kentucky officers killed in the line of duty between 1858 and 2013, but whose names were not added to the national memorial until recently.

The Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial monument stands in memory of nearly every Kentucky peace officer who has been killed in the line of duty. This year's additions bring the total number of names on the monument to 525, including two from Crittenden County – Louis W. Myers and Denver Tabor, who died within six weeks of one another in the summer of 1973.

One of the criteria for having a name placed on the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial is that it be on the National Law Enforcement Memorial.

Tolu hosts music, dancing Saturday

Cotton Patch Express Band will be returning to the Tolu Community Center Saturday evening. Music and

Adjudant General Edward W.

Lt. Gov. Crit Luallen and

Adjutant General Edward W.

Flags were raised, the ribbon was cut, names were read and the tears fell. Kentucky now has a permanent shrine to fallen guardsmen.

Lt. Gov. Crit Luallen and

Adjutant General Edward W.

Monday's ceremony also

featured a fly-over by a Kentucky Air Guard C-130 and

two Blackhawk helicopters

and a 21-gun salute from Howitzer cannons of the 138th Field Artillery Brigade.

Soil from all 120 Kentucky

counties was planted at the

site in recognition of the Kentucky National Guard being

the commonwealth's "home-

town defense force."

The memorial was built

with private funds.

— Kentucky National

Guard Public Affairs

Tonini joined hundreds of

current and former citizen-

soldiers and airmen, friends

and family members in a dedi-

cation ceremony for the Ken-

tucky National Guard Memorial

on Memorial Day at Boone Na-

tional Guard Center in Frank-

fort.

With a beautiful stone map of Kentucky and that in-

credible statue of Daniel Boone standing guard ...

there's nothing quite like it in our city," said Lt. Gov. Lu-

allen. "I don't think there's

anything quite like it any-

where in the state of Ken-

tucky. It is a fitting tribute to

your fallen loved ones and

serves as a reminder to all of

us that freedom isn't free."

Nearly 10 years in the

making, the memorial honors

233 guardsmen who have

given their lives in the line of

duty since 1912 in defense of

the nation overseas and here

at home. The names of seven

men from Crittenden County

are included on the monu-

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COLLEGE SIGNING DAY



Committed to attending West Kentucky Community and Technical College at Paducah are (front from left) Ashleigh Rodgers, Chelsea Oliver, Chloe McKinzie, Taylor Johnson, Erica Hardin, Courtney Windsor and Monica Hodge; (back row) Sylvana Hunt, Trevor Faith, Landon Young, Chris Winders, Kenzie McKinley, Khyla Moss and Danielle Byarley.

Crittenden County High School held its fourth annual College Signing Day Friday. Students committed to colleges, institutes, technical schools or the military were recognized during an assembly of the entire high school. Pictured are those students recognized.



Committed to attending Madisonville Community College are (from left) Madison Lynch and Logan Bingham.



Committed to attending Murray State University are (from left) Jacob Berry, Sydney Hunt, Kayla Davis, Nicolas Greenwell, Melanie Serrano and Layla Underdown.



Committed to attending Campbellsville University are (from left) Jacob Graham, Marie Riley and Adam Driver.



Committed to attending Western Kentucky University at Bowling Green are (from left) Cameron McDaniel, Noah Dickerson, Lauren Beavers, Areal Wright, Jacob Greenwell and Jonathan Suggs.



Committed to attending various other colleges, universities or technical schools are (from left) RaKara McDowell, Katie Davies, Meagan Manns and Mary Sitar; (second row) Cole Foster, Anna Bryant, Makayla Quertermous, Gwenn Hudson and Justin Prehn.

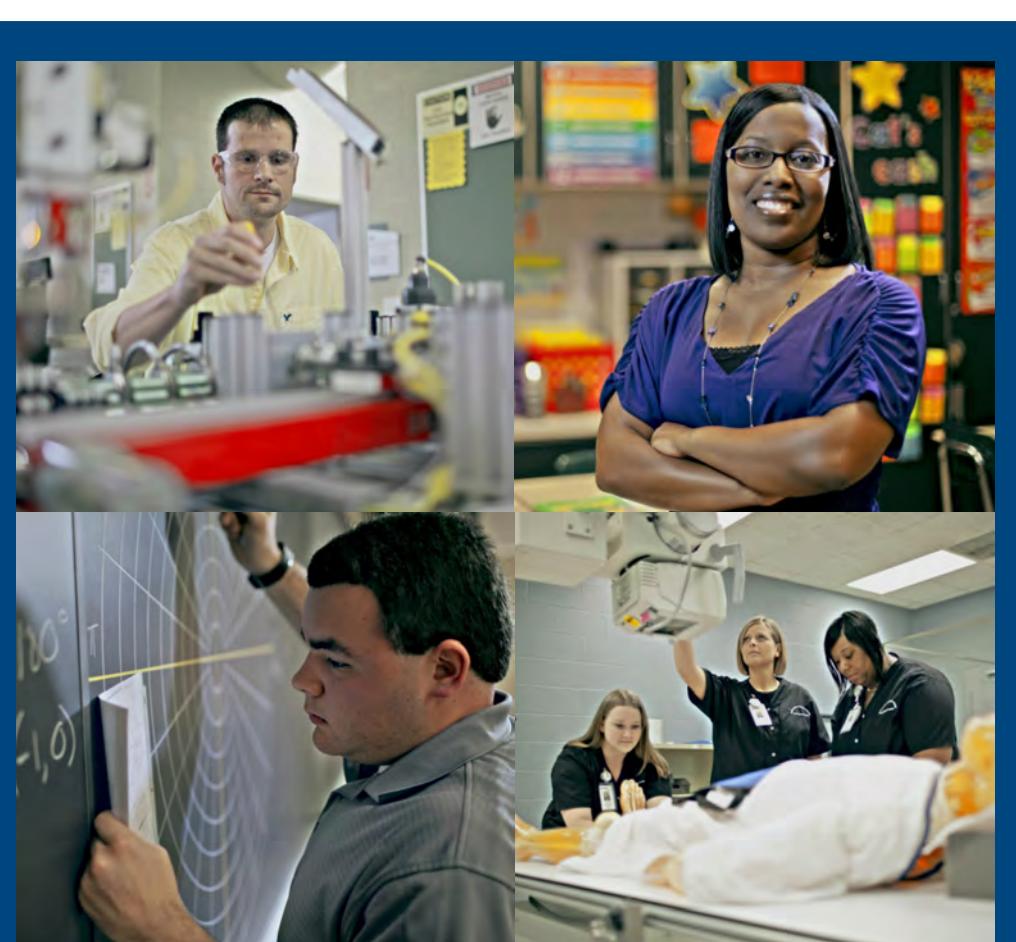


Committed to various branches of the United States military are (from left) Joey Shewmaker, Jason Isbell and Chris Swilley.

Go close to home.
Go with less debt.
Go for your college basics.
Go for a whole new career.

**Congratulations
Graduates!**

Go you!



**HIGHER
EDUCATION
BEGINS
HERE**

Madisonville
Community College

KENTUCKY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

Painful reunion; praying for a happy one

Family events have always been my happy times – Christmas with the rare goodies for us children; a night with Grandma Underdown and savoring each bite of her goodies in the old cane-bottom chair, Thanksgiving at Aunt Ocie Kirk's with all the cousins and trips to Aunt Jane Underdown's tabernacle when we could get the men to harness the team to the wagon for the July camp meetings.

When I left home, the same happy times always drew me home with gifts, wanting all the family to meet at Mama's for Christmas, Thanksgiving and Mama's birthdays.

In 1955, we had the family reunion at our brother Lyle's. All 15 children were there. Then through the years, we had two at our brother Harry's at Eddyville, some at Cave In Rock and at Dam 50 and three at the National Guard armory. But for the last 25 years, they have been here at home.

Over the last 50 years, the only time I spent away from home was on the Lord's business or confined to a sick bed. There was no need for vacations, as my highlights were the holidays with dinners for all the family that could come and the yearly family reunion.

Then, the families began to form and have their own celebrations at the holidays, leaving Gleaford and me to still have wonderful times for the holidays and his birthday and still looking forward for the May family reunions.

As the years passed, the number who were able to make the reunions began to dwindle from 15. Each time God took one, there was such a hole left and a

highlight of my whole year.

Having the family reunion – which I plan each year for the Saturday before Memorial Day – to look forward to was still the highlight of my whole year.

As the time began to approach this year, I knew time and circumstances were taking their toll. But with God's help, I forged ahead.

Nieces and nephews came from nine states – California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Minnesota, New York, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. All of our eldest brother Lyle's children and grandchildren were here: Nancy; Eloise and her daughter Martie; L.E.'s three daughter's, Gay Lynn and husband, Beverly and Leslie; Greta's three daughters, LeRhea, Gena and Lynnette; and John Mac.

Lyle's family also had a

reunion with their loved ones on the Thomas and Cook side, so it all worked out so well for them, especially for the younger ones to get re-acquainted.

The family was spread out over the nation, and it was so wonderful to see all the happy faces and many new little ones running

around.

The porches and grounds were covered. The tables were laden with wonderful and many different foods. Memories were renewed. Pictures were taken. Old photos were looked at. Stories were told. Still, the lingering hurt of the holes and the fact that each year more holes would form caused me to be more acutely aware of the speed of time, the shortness of life and the family bond which is more precious than gold.

To lose a family member in death or disagreement is always so painful for me. To some people, it doesn't seem to bother. But God made earthly family and a spiritual family called the church, or the Body of Christ, and how we all are richer to keep the bonds safe from Satan's evil wiles in both plans.

Time and circumstance are such a robber of happiness and life. It seems but yesterday I was running back from Chicago to enjoy all the great gatherings of all my family which I have always loved with a passion.

To our sorrow, our sisters Wanda and Bonnie did not get to attend this time, but thank God, Willard, Harry and Lula were here.

Because of distance, age and health, there were some of those here Saturday I know I'll never see again in this life.

Not only that, but my

own prevailing circumstances have caused me to have to announce that to my deep sorrow and disappointment, unless God changes a lot of things, this is the last year I'll get to host the reunion. That

made what was supposed to be a happy reunion a painful one.

But I will continue to pray, as I faithfully do, that God will save all my precious loved ones as far as my bloodline reaches on both sides of my family so that all of us will get to have a happy family reunion in Heaven. There, none will ever have to suffer, separate, get old or have our worst enemy, death, hound us ever again.

All of this causes me to remember the words of wisdom and eternal truths God's faithful writers of His Holy Writ recorded for us:

- From Job, "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle. Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower, and is cut down. He flees also as a shadow and is here no more. Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with the Lord, who has appointed his bounds and he cannot pass."

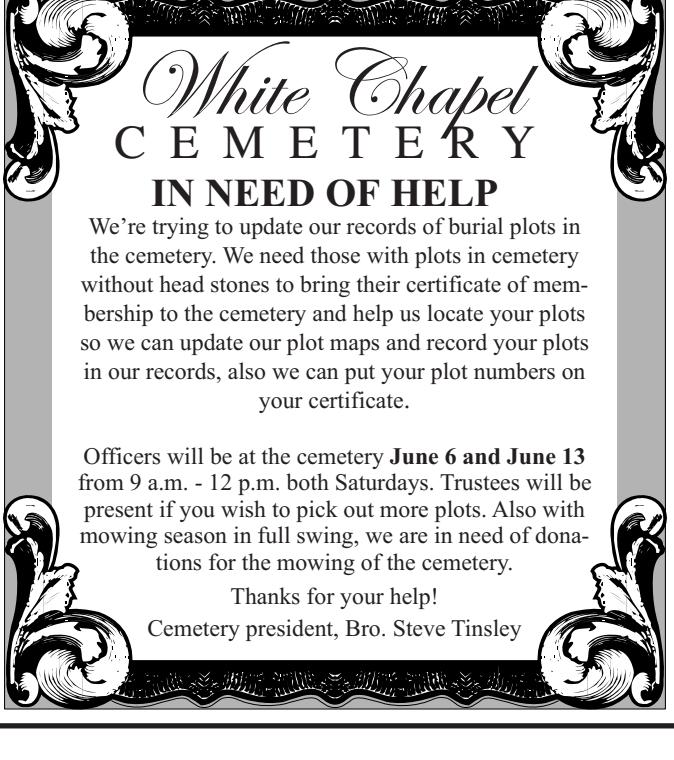
- From James, "Where as you know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then it vanishes away."

- From Solomon, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. Fear God, and keep His Commandments for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

- From David, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Amen!

(Rev. Lucy Tedrick of Marion shares her views regularly in this newspaper. Her opinions are her own, and are not necessarily those of the newspaper.)



**White Chapel
CEMETERY
IN NEED OF HELP**

We're trying to update our records of burial plots in the cemetery. We need those with plots in cemetery without head stones to bring their certificate of membership to the cemetery and help us locate your plots so we can update our plot maps and record your plots in our records, also we can put your plot numbers on your certificate.

Officers will be at the cemetery **June 6 and June 13** from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. both Saturdays. Trustees will be present if you wish to pick out more plots. Also with mowing season in full swing, we are in need of donations for the mowing of the cemetery.

Thanks for your help!
Cemetery president, Bro. Steve Tinsley

NOTICE

C & C Ford located at 103 E. 5th Street in Sturgis, Kentucky is announcing that it is closing as a business. The exact last day of business is yet to be determined. However all Ford warranty work must be completed no later than May 29th, 2015.

To those folks that chose to do business with us we say THANKS, for being the best customers any business could ask for.



C & C Ford

103 E. 5th St., Sturgis, KY
(270) 333-2251

Henderson bridge work to begin

STAFF REPORT

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet plans to restrict southbound traffic to one lane on the U.S. 41 Twin Bridges between Henderson and Evansville, Ind., starting Monday.

The lane restriction during daylight hours is to allow patching of the driving surface along the southbound bridge.

Motorists can expect to encounter one-lane traffic between about 8:30 a.m. and about 3 p.m. each weekday.

Community church notes

■ Creek Side Baptist Church on U.S. 60 west of Marion will hold services at 7 p.m., Wednesday night. The church will also hold its fifth Sunday singing at 6 p.m. Individuals are encouraged to come for food, fun and fellowship.

■ The Relay for Life Survivor's Brunch will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday at Marion First Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

■ Salem Baptist Church will hold its Vacation Bible School for ages four years

to sixth grade from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 1-5. This year's theme is Journey Off the Map.

■ Pleasant Grove General Baptist Church will hold homecoming services June 7. Morning worship begins at 11 a.m. The Joylanders of Trenton, Tenn. will sing after the noon meal. The church is located four miles north of Salem on Ky. 723.

■ Mexico Baptist Church's clothes closet is open 9-11:30 a.m., each Monday.

COME WORSHIP WITH US...

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. — Matthew 18:20



Crooked Creek Baptist Church
261 Crooked Creek Church Road, Marion, Ky.

Sunday school, 10 a.m.

Sunday worship: Morning, 11 a.m. | Evening, 6 p.m.

Bro. Mark Girtan, pastor | Wednesday Bible study, 6:30 p.m.

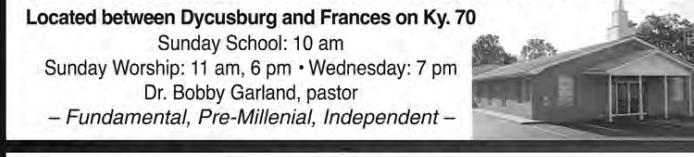
Join us every fourth Sunday of the month for gospel singing at 6 p.m.



Marion Baptist Church

College and Depot streets, Marion • 965-5232

• Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
• AWANA: 5:45 p.m.
• Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
• Sunday contemporary service: 8:15 a.m.
• Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
• RAS, GAs and Youth Craze: 5:45 p.m.



SEVEN SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Located between Dycusburg and Frances on Ky. 70

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m. • Wednesday: 7 p.m.

Dr. Bobby Garland, pastor

— Fundamental, Pre-Millennial, Independent —



Mexico Baptist Church

175 Mexico Road, (270) 965-4059

Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.

Sunday Discipleship Training 6 p.m. • Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m. • Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

Pastor Tim Burdon

Minister of Youth Robert Kirby

Minister of Music Mike Crabtree

Visit us at www.mexicobaptist.org



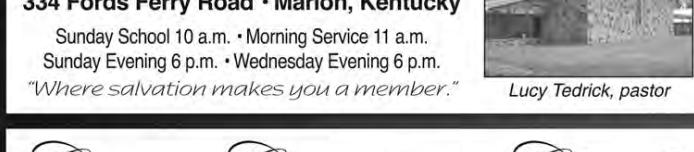
Unity General Baptist Church

4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.

Barry Hix, pastor • 365-5836 or 625-1248

Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.



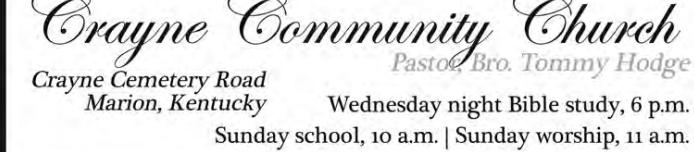
Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road • Marion, Kentucky

Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.

"Where salvation makes you a member."



Crayne Community Church

Pastor Bro. Tommy Hodge

Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.

Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Captured by a vision...

108 HILLCREST DRIVE, MARION | 270.965.4623

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:30 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:45 AM, 6 PM

WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY, CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES: 6 PM

CURTIS PREWITT, PASTOR



St. William Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11 a.m.

Father Ryan Harpole

860 S. Main St.

Marion, Ky. 965-2477



Marion United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The People of the United Methodist Church

Rev. David Combs, pastor

Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.

www.the-press.com/MARIONUnitedmethodist.html

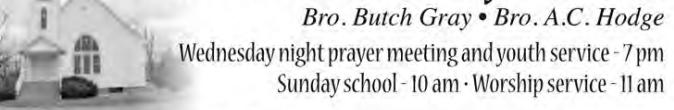


FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

224 W. Bellville St. • Marion, Ky.

Dee Ann Thompson, pastor • Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10:45

a.m. • Sunday Night Worship Service 6 p.m.



PLEASANT GROVE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Located on Ky. 723, 4 miles north of Salem

Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.



Frances Community Church

Bro. Butch Gray • Bro. A.C. Hodge

Wednesday night prayer meeting and youth service - 7 p.m.

Sunday school - 10 a.m. • Worship service - 11 a.m.



Barnett Chapel General Baptist Church

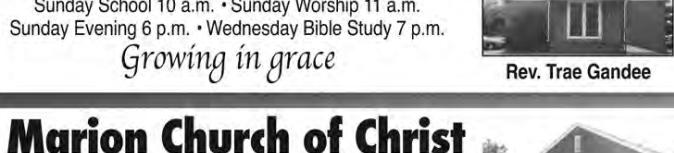
224 W. Bellville St. • Marion, Ky.

Dee Ann Thompson, pastor • Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

• Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

• Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

• Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m.



Reports of scams continue to flow into sheriff's office

FROM AP AND STAFF REPORTS

Crittenden County Sheriff Wayne Agent said his office continues to be pummeled with reports of scams.

An apparent scam where people are threatened with arrest by the Internal Revenue Service is already running rampant throughout western Kentucky. Now, another popular scam involves Publishers Clearing House (PCH).

The sheriff said people are reporting receiving checks from PCH and after cashing them, they are asked to

send more money to claim a larger prize. The sheriff warns, do not cash these checks.

According to the PCH Sweepstakes Learning Center online, winning is always free and you never have to pay anything to claim a prize award.

"If you are ever contacted by someone claiming to represent PCH, or claiming to be one of our employees, and asked to send or wire money (for any reason whatsoever, including taxes); or send a pre-paid gift card or

Green Dot MoneyPak card in order to claim a sweepstakes prize, don't. It's a scam.

"If you are sent a check, told it's a partial prize award, and asked to cash it and send a portion back to claim the full prize award, don't! The check is fake, but the scam is real!" offers the website.

As for the taxpayer identity theft, the cases involve local taxpayers who have found their tax return to have been fraudulently filed by someone who has stolen their Social Security

number. Agent said about the only thing his office can do is create a report that can be used by the IRS to start an investigation.

A notice from the IRS saying your return won't be accepted might be your first clue that your identity has been stolen. Identity theft could lead to long delays in getting your refund or to bigger tax bills for unreported income.

"The IRS recognizes the first return submitted under a Social Security number, and usually the identity

theft is identified when the second return is filed" under that same number, Mark Luscombe, principal federal tax analyst for Wolters Kluwer Tax & Accounting, US, recently told The Associated Press.

More than 236,000 tax returns processed last year were deemed fraudulent because of identity theft, and nearly \$1.2 billion in refunds from those fraudulent returns were blocked, according to the Treasury inspector general for tax administration.

State fair accepting entries

FROM STAFF AND AP REPORTS

For more than 110 years, Kentuckians have utilized the Kentucky State Fair as the showcase for homemade items, treasured antiques and family-favorite recipes. Entries are now being accepted for those who want to earn top honors and win a coveted blue ribbon at this year's fair.

Online entry forms are available at KyStateFair.org. Online entries require a credit card to complete the process. Forms may also be printed out and mailed or faxed with payment to the Kentucky State Fair Entry Department. The premium book, a handy explanation of the rules, entry deadlines and prizes, is posted in PDF format

at KyStateFair.org.

The deadline for all general entries is July 1. General entries include 29 departments of almost anything that can be baked, made, grown and sewn. General entries will be accepted with a late fee until July 10. Livestock entries must be postmarked by July 10 and by July 25 with a late fee. Poultry, pigeons and rabbit entry applications must be postmarked by July 18.

The 2015 Kentucky State Fair is Aug. 20-30 at the Kentucky Exposition Center. For more information about the Kentucky State Fair, visit KyStateFair.org or follow the state fair on Facebook and Twitter.

Bright outlook for soybeans, corn this year

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

What a difference a month can make.

As April came to an end, Kentucky farmers were almost a month behind in planting corn, with only 7 percent planted, well behind the same time last year (29 percent) and far below the five-year average (45 percent).

But according to the latest report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service, 91 percent of corn in the commonwealth has been planted, exceeding the five-year average of 83 percent.

In addition, there were virtually no soybeans planted at the end of April, while the lat-

est report has 40 percent of Kentucky's soybeans planted, above last year (28 percent) at this time and the five-year average (33 percent).

"We've gained phenomenal ground," said Chad Lee, extension agronomist with the University of Kentucky. "We went from real concern about getting anything planted to where the majority (of corn) is planted. It was a very, very good turnaround."

Many farmers went from a rush to get corn planted to not only getting it done but also getting ahead on planting soybeans, according to Lee.

"All in all, it's been a very good few weeks," Lee said,

leading to hopes for good yields on both crops.

A major portion of the state's corn acreage is in western Kentucky, because of its "good, deep soil," according to Carrie Knott, extension agronomist at UK's Research and Education Center in Princeton.

"A lot of people are pretty much done planting corn," Knott said. "There are some fields still drying out, but we are pretty much on track. Corn and soybeans are up, everything's looking good."

The winter wheat crop also looks good, according to Knott. The latest USDA crop report indicates 95 percent of the wheat crop is headed

(grain head is out), compared to last year at this time (89 percent) and the five-year average (94 percent).

"The good thing with the cool weather and sufficient water is making the grain fill period for wheat longer, leading us to believe we will have higher yields this year for wheat," Knott said.

But the right amount of moisture in the soil is a constant concern, Knott said.

"We need rain for what's in the ground, but for those with nothing in the ground, they really don't want it ... farming is one big set of contradictions."

(Editor's note: The Paducah Sun contributed to this story.)

Former Marion man named president of college

STAFF REPORT

Scott Williams, a former Marion businessman, has been named president of Owensboro Community and Technical College.

Williams has been at the school since 2008, having worked under three previous college presidents. Most recently, Williams was vice president of academic affairs and chief academic officer.

On July 1, he will become the community college's sixth president.

"I am humbled and excited to have the opportunity," he

said. "The college is in real need of stability in the president's office."

The post became available five months ago when its previous president left to take a similar position in Alabama. Williams will become the fourth president of the college in the past decade.

Williams, 52, who now lives in Owensboro, says his experience at the college will allow for a seamless transition into the presidency.



Williams

"I want to take the college to the next level," he said.

Williams earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Florida and received his Ph.D. in animal science at Colorado State University.

In the 1990s, he was instrumental in developing the cattle marketing system currently used nationwide by farmers known as the Slaughter Cow Grading System. Williams worked on that project while

he was a tenured professor at the University of Georgia.

Williams left Georgia in 1999 to move closer to his parents, who had retired from Florida and settled in Crittenden County. His parents, Ed and Shirley Williams, still reside in Crittenden County.

He and his wife, Donna, were co-owners of Williams Home Place, a kitchen and bath store formerly located on the south side of Marion. He was also in the cattle business here with his brother, Mark, who is now an area real estate agent.

County's cost to provide health insurance up 8.3 percent

STAFF REPORT

To no one's surprise, the cost of providing health care benefits to county employees will be up next year.

At last Thursday's meeting of Crittenden Fiscal Court, Judge-Executive Perry Newcom said the cost in the coming fiscal year to renew the current health plan offered to county employees was quoted at a 21.8 percent increase. That's more than double the 10 percent jump in premiums planned for by the county.

The fiscal court currently pays 70 percent of monthly premiums for 16 employees enrolled in county health care benefits offered through United Health Care (UHC). That amounts to \$219.16 per person. Paying the same share for renewal of the plan as of July 1 would bump the county's monthly contribution to \$271.76, or \$10,100 more annually for those 16 workers.

"I don't see that we can afford that kind of an increase," Newcom told magistrates.

Shopping for equivalent plans through Anthem and Humana offered no relief, as both companies quoted higher premiums than UHC's renewal. So the county is offering a compromise.

The fiscal court will offer employees two choices in health care plans through UHC. Workers can keep the current plan or move to a less expensive option that offers reduced coverage. The county will pay a fixed rate of \$237.28 for monthly premiums, which remains a 70 percent contribution for the lesser plan. However, that amount is only 61 percent if an employee chooses to keep the current plan in Fiscal Year 2016.

By offering the fixed amount, the county ensures an 8.3 percent increase in the portion it pays for health care benefits for employees, or just under \$3,500 annually for 16 enrollees. That is roughly a third of the total to continue paying 70 percent of the cost to renew UHC's current plan.

The increase in insurance costs will be covered in the county's proposed \$8.71 million spending plan for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

Magistrates were expected to approve the new budget at last Thursday's meeting, but a state review had not been completed. Newcom said a special meeting could be called to pass the budget before July 1, or it could be approved at the regular June meeting. That session has been reset for Tuesday, June 16 as opposed to the usual third Thursday of the

month due to a scheduling conflict. The meeting will still begin at 8:30 a.m.

Also from last Thursday's meeting, Jailer Robbie Kirk reported a continued increase in income at Crittenden County Detention Center. For April, the average daily inmate count at the facility was 142, nine over the designed bed count. Revenue from housing state and federal inmates for the month was up a combined \$8,600 over April 2014. Total revenue for all housing was \$112,911 in April 2015.

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Salute TO GRADUATES

\$15 Send photo of your college or high school graduate and a 20-word message.

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CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 77 ACRES - An excellent small hunting tract that is well developed with multiple buildings sites and county water and tons of cover. **SOLD**

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 203 ACRES - \$262,885 - Very diverse habitat that combine dense cover, abundance of water and food plots.

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 63 ACRES - Under Contract - This is a Whitetail Nirvana. No other way to put it! A perfect mix of edge, tillable, timber, and seclusion! And did I say edge!

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 262 ACRES - \$262,885 - Rolling hills and rich creek bottoms offer the diversity that every great hunting tract needs to produce huge bucks. With tons of picturesque views where you can see for miles as potential building sites.

CALDWELL CO, KY - 146 ACRES - \$262,900 - This farm combines an excellent habitat with the right mix of food, cover, and water to grow and hold big deer.

CALDWELL CO, KY - 100 ACRES - \$139,500 - This property is mostly wooded with wet weather creeks, dense cover and plenty of native browse for high plain of nutrition.

CALDWELL CO, KY - 221 ACRES - \$253,903.75 - This is one of those properties that many overlook, but, in reality it has the bare bone potential to become a premier hunting property.

CALDWELL CO, KY - 261 ACRES - \$337,995 - A fantastic hunting farm in proven Big Buck Country with a mixture of timber and outstanding habitat.

LIVINGSTON CO, KY - 73.5 ACRES - \$125,900 - The only little patch of woods in the area making it a deer magnet. It produces a large amount of cover and holds deer.



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2014 Census estimates

Last week, the U.S. Census Bureau released its 2014 population estimates for all 418 of Kentucky's incorporated areas.

Ten largest cities

Princeton.....6,199

Louisville-Jefferson.....612,780

Lexington-Fayette.....310,797

Bowling Green.....62,479

Owensboro.....58,374

Covington.....40,944

Richmond.....33,556

Hopkinsville.....32,634

Florence.....31,888

Georgetown.....31,653

Elizabethtown.....29,974

Other cities of interest

Henderson.....28,900

Paducah.....24,978

Madisonville.....19,622

Murray.....18,630

Mayfield.....10,112

15,000, showed an increase in population.

Louisville-Jefferson County Metro remains the largest incorporated area in Kentucky with an estimated population in 2014 of 612,780. Lexington-Fayette Urban County is roughly half that at 310,797.

Hopkinsville is the state's seventh largest city at 32,634. Henderson (28,900) is 12th, Paducah is 16th, Madisonville (19,622) is 19th and Murray (18,630) is 21st.

Carrsville is Kentucky's fourth smallest incorporated area with a population estimate of 49.

Continued from Page 1

High school students get head-start on college, careers

By TIFFANY BLAZINA

GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

After school, senior Brittany Stone leaves to see her family – her nursing home family, that is.

Stone, a Crittenden County High School senior, works as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) at Crittenden County Health and Rehabilitation Center. Thanks to her training through the school's vocational program, she is "career-ready" and getting a head start in a career she loves.

"You become so close to them," Stone said of her patients. "They truly become like family."

As a junior, Stone first entered the vocational program, which is a joint effort between CCHS and Caldwell County Area Technology Center. The real-world experience appealed to Stone, who describes herself as a kinesthetic learner.

"I learn much better hands-on," said Stone. "Trade school gives me an opportunity to do just that."

As a senior, Stone continued with the program. In the mornings, she completed core content classes at the high school then left for vocational school after lunch.



Stone

In January 2014, Stone obtained her CNA license and has been working at the nursing home since June of last year. In addition to learning skills necessary for her career, she also is earning college credit. When she graduates Friday, Stone will be able to transfer college credit to Madisonville Community College's nursing program, where she plans to study to become a registered nurse.

"I'm so glad I chose trade school," Stone said. "I feel like I have an edge going out into the real world." Another senior, Madison Lynch, has found similar success in a different pathway. In fact, Lynch is one of 51 seniors enrolled in what CCHS terms "career pathways," or a series of classes designed to introduce students to various career fields.

Currently, the school offers pathways in animal science, horticulture, agricultural power, adminis- trative support, multimedia, consumer and family management, early childhood, and aerospace. Next year, instrumental music and visual arts will be added to the list.

Lynch chose the early childhood pathway and recently passed the industry certification exam for the field. She has been part of a co-op program at Crittenden County Elementary School's preschool program since January.

"Actually working in the classroom with the students has given me experience outside of what I can learn in class," said Lynch. "More than ever, I'm confident I'm making the right decision about my future."

Lynch is considered "college- and career-ready" since she has met ACT benchmarks as well as having obtained her industry certificate for early childhood. By meeting specific benchmarks on assessments, including the ACT, ASVAB, and Kentucky Occupational Skills Standard Assessment (KOSSA), students are deemed college-ready, career-ready, or both college- and career-ready.

Amy Hardin, career and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Crittenden County High School senior Madison Lynch, enrolled in a co-op program at Crittenden County Elementary School's preschool program since January, instructs student Bryson Kentfield.

technical education (CTE) teacher at CCHS, said career and tech ed programs are beneficial to all students.

"The pathways enable students to focus their high school academics on their

post secondary goals. When a student finishes a pathway, he or she will have a seamless transition into college or the workforce," said Hardin.

This year, the high school

surpassed the state average KOSSA passage-rate of 58 percent when 62 percent of its students passed. That's a significant increase from the 37 percent passage rate during the 2013-14 school year. Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark said it's a trend the district expects to continue.

"We are focusing more on college and career-readiness in Crittenden County schools," Clark said. "One way we are working to meet our goals is by ensuring all students are enrolled in a pathway upon entering high school. The real-world skills they learn and the opportunities afforded them through being a part of these programs is invaluable."

Both Lynch and Stone can attest to that. Thanks to the pathways and educational opportunities beyond the typical classroom, both feel one step closer to achieving their career goals.

"It definitely gives you an edge," Stone said. "I'm so thankful for this opportunity."

To learn more about college and career readiness at Crittenden County High School, visit Crittenden.KySchools.us.

Davis explains Cathedral quilt block technique at meeting

CLUB REPORT

Crittenden County Extension Homemakers Quilt Club met May 18 with seven members present. The lesson of the day was presented by Martha Davis, who shared the method of making a cathedral quilt block. She brought a completed pillow made of the cathedral window pattern as well as samples of the blocks from a simple square to finish the centers to create the cathedral window.

In addition Nancy Paris brought her cathedral window quilt made in the 1960s by her mother-in-law, Pansy Paris. This quilt won the People's Choice Award at the 2015 Backroads Quilt Show. Club members were interested in the hand work in this quilt.

Although The Quilt Club does not meet during the summer it will resume this



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Martha Davis (left, center) was the guest speaker at the May meeting of The Quilt Club at the Extension Service in Marion.

fall and welcomes new members. Each meeting is on a different topic.

The Quilt Club's annual trip is scheduled June 25. Members will carpool to Trenton, Tenn., and visit the Quilt and Sew Shop, a bakery and have lunch on the square in Elkton. Also in-

cluded is a visit to the Jefferson Davis Monument State Park. Anyone who would like to participate should register with the Crittenden County Extension Service by June 22 so travel arrangements can be made. For more information call (270) 965-5236.

"Students should remember that the FAFSA is a free application," Phelps added. "Applicants should be wary of any financial aid forms or processes that require payment."

For additional financial aid information, contact MCC Financial Aid at (270) 824-8693 or

visit MCC.KCTCS.edu.

Paternal grandparents are Dallas Stump of Bardstown and the late Katherine Stump.

Maternal grandparents are Tom Conditt of Marion and Salisa Conditt of Madisonville.

Siblings include Skye Al-

isabeth and Tate Alexander.

BIRTH

Stump

Chris and Cassie Stump of Marion announce the birth of their daughter, Haze Katherine Stump, on May 11, 2015 at Baptist Health Paducah. The baby weighed seven pounds, eight ounces and was 19 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Dallas Stump of Bardstown and the late Katherine Stump.

Maternal grandparents are Tom Conditt of Marion and Salisa Conditt of Madisonville.

Siblings include Skye Al-

isabeth and Tate Alexander.



PHOTO BY RACHEL DeCOURSEY, CAMPBELLSVILLE UNIVERSITY
Joey Bomia of Marion (third from left) and Mary Kate Young were named Mr. and Miss Campbellsville at Honors and Awards Day recently at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Ky. Pictures are (from left) Dr. Michael V. Carter, university president; Young; Bomia; and Dr. Frank Cheatham, university senior vice president of academic affairs.

Campbellsville University honors two local students at awards day

STAFF REPORT

Two local students were among Campbellsville University students, faculty and staff honored for going above and beyond their calling at the recent annual Honors and Awards Day in Ransdell Chapel. Awards were presented in categories of Special Awards, Academic Awards, Servant Leadership Awards, Honors Graduates, Alpha Chi, Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Col-

leges and Champions of Character.

"This university is one of excellence, built on servant leadership," Dr. Michael V. Carter, president of Campbellsville University, said.

Local award winners are as follows:

- Mark Joseph Bomia of Marion received Mr. Campbellsville University, Magna Cum Laude (3.70-3.84 grade-point average), Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Col-

leges 2014-15.

- Jessica Michelle Tinsley of Marion received Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges 2014-15 and Cheerleading Champion of Character 2014-15.

Campbellsville University is a Kentucky-based Christian university with more than 3,500 students offering 63 undergraduate options, 17 master's degrees, five postgraduate areas and eight pre-professional programs.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday, May 31

■ Carrsville Masonic Lodge Number 812 will hold a bass fishing tournament to benefit the Mason Fuller fund. Registration is 5 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. The tournament runs from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will launch from Berry's Ferry Boat ramp. Call Bobby Williams at (270) 704-1920 or James Quertermous at (270) 969-0919.

Monday, June 1

■ West Kentucky Regional Blood Center and Crittenden Health Systems will sponsor a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the CHS training building.

Tuesday, June 2

■ Bigham Lodge No. 256 will have stated communication at the lodge located at 206 Sturgis Rd. The meal will be at 6:30 p.m., with the meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m. All members and fellow Master Masons are urged to attend.

Friday, June 5

■ Crittenden County Relay for Life will be held at 6 p.m. at the Marion-Crittenden County park.

■ Pre-orders are being accepted for the Lady Rocket

basketball pork chop sale June 5. Call (270) 704-0447 to place an order. Business deliveries offered.

Saturday, June 6

■ The Coterie Dance Club will present the music of the Lonny Lynn Orchestra from 8-11 p.m., at the Scottish Rite, located at 203 Chestnut St. in Evansville. Call 812-449-1895 for more information.

Saturday, June 13

■ Bark at the RV Park will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., behind Animal Practice of Marion at the War Eagle RV Park. Events will include a low cost vaccine clinic, bath, free nail trims, raffle, pet adoption and more. Proceeds benefit the Angel Fund for care of animals at the Crittenden County Animal Shelter.

Saturday, Aug. 8

■ Crittenden County High School Class of 1995 will celebrate its 20th reunion at Green Turtle Bay conference center. Festivities begin at 6 p.m. A meal will be provided.

Cost is \$40 per person (non-refundable). RSVP and payment via check or PayPal are due by July 1 to Josh Hamilton at (808) 375-7607 or joshav8r@gmail.com.

Saturday, Sept. 5

■ The CCHS Class of 1965 will hold its 50th class reunion at Fohs Hall beginning at 5 p.m. with a "meet and greet." Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Everyone who attended CCHS from 1960-1965 is welcome to join the festivities after 7:30 p.m., to celebrate. Call (270) 965-5003 or (270) 965-3332 for more information or check Facebook.

On-going events

■ Students can now register for summer and fall classes at West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah. Call (855) GO-WKCTC or visit westkentucky.kctcs.edu for class offerings. Fall classes begin Aug. 17.

■ Salem Garden Club meets at 6:30 p.m., the second Thursday of each month at Salem City Hall. You do not have to be a member to attend. Call Janet Hughes at (270) 988-3835 to verify location during the summer months as the club meets at members' homes.

■ American Legion Auxiliary Unit 217 of Burna will host its monthly Social Day the fourth Tuesday of each month at its Post headquarters in Burna.



Chamber recognizes The Press

The Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce recognized The Crittenden Press as the May Business of the Month. The newspaper was established in 1879 and also publishes The Early Bird Shopper's Guide each week. Shown above (from left) are chamber members Brad Gilbert, Chamber president Robin Curnel presenting Press publisher Chris Evans with the recognition, Holly White and Devon Atwell; (back row) Meredith Hall, Scott Belt and Randa Berry.

Chamber of Commerce holds annual awards banquet

STAFF REPORT

It was a day set aside to recognize local individuals and businesses that have made a significant contribution in Crittenden County over the past year.

Last Thursday, Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce hosted its 42nd annual meeting and awards ceremony during a luncheon at Marion First Cumberland Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall, naming the organization's five annual award winners and installing new board directors and officers.

Taking the top award in 2015 was 5th Judicial Circuit Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers.

Person of the Year, the Chamber's most coveted award for recognition of outstanding leadership through community service, was presented by Crittenden County Public Library Director Regina Merrick. She recognized Rogers' work as a library trustee, the last several years as chairman of the board of trustees; her civic and charitable contributions, including work with Crittenden County Coalition for a Drug-Free Community; and as being the only person elected to a judicial position from Crittenden County under the unified court system that began in 1978.

"I look forward to all I can do for our county," said Rogers, elected family court judge over Crittenden, Union and Webster counties last fall. "I can't be



more proud than to be from this county."

Chris Evans, publisher of The Crittenden Press, was named Unsung Hero, chiefly for his volunteer efforts over the last year as a Marion-Crittenden County Park Board member to get new lighting erected at three diamonds at the park.

Crittenden County Superintendent of Schools Vince Clark presented the award to his friend.

"He has dedicated countless hours serving on the Marion-Crittenden County Park Board and Crittenden County Dugout Club, ensuring operations run smoothly for the Crittenden County youth baseball programs and knowing the great need to replace the original lighting at the park," Clark said. "All of this volunteerism is done solely for the love of the

game and for the love of his community."

Crittenden County Circuit Court Clerk Melissa Guill presented Volunteer of the Year to Kristi Beavers.

"This young woman serves as manager at the Mary Hall-Ruddiman (Canine) Shelter, volunteers countless hours at the Mary Hall shelter and the Crittenden County shelter, works closely with animal rescues to secure safe placement for the animals at the Crittenden County shelter, coordinates and participates in countless adoption drives for both shelters, is active in all fundraising efforts for both shelters and even takes on the responsibility to make sure the Pets of the Week are featured in all the local newspapers," Guill said of Beavers. "This young

woman would go to any length to help any animal. At one time, she climbed into a dumpster to rescue a whole litter of kittens, all of which found homes."

Marion Mayor Mickey Alexander presented the Community Pride Award to Jerry Beavers, who happens to be the father of Kristi Beavers. The mayor recognized Beavers' commitment to making his business, Beavers Car Wash on South Main Street, look attractive and clean for the community of Marion.

"It's a real testament to the work ethic and a real source of pride for our community to have a business that cares that much," said Alexander, who lives adjacent to the business.

Clifton Etheridge was presented the Customer Service Award by Nancy



PHOTOS BY ALLISON EVANS, THE PRESS

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce named its annual award winners at its 42nd annual meeting last Thursday. Award winners pictured are (left photo, from left) Chris Evans, Unsung Hero; Clifton Etheridge, Customer Service Award; Brandi Rogers; Person of the Year; Jerry Beavers, Community Pride Award; and Kristi Beavers, Volunteer of the Year. Above, new officers and members of the board of directors for Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce were installed at last Thursday's annual meeting of the Chamber. Those officers and board members include (from left) Todd Perryman, treasurer; Devon Atwell, director; Robin Curnel, president; and Randa Berry, vice president. Wendy Lucas, who is not pictured, was also installed as a director on the board.

Hunt on behalf of her husband, Charlie Hunt, and Keith Hart of Marion Feed Mill. Etheridge, who will soon celebrate his 37th anniversary at the store, was recognized for his dedication to his community and care shown to customers.

"The compliment we hear the most is that Clifton is the friendliest person they have ever met," Hunt said, reading com-

ments from the feed mill's owners.

In addition to the award recipients, Chamber officers for the upcoming year were recognized. They include Robin Curnel, president; Randa Berry, vice-president; and Todd Perryman, treasurer. New board members Devon Atwell and Wendy Lucas were also recognized at the luncheon.

"The compliment we hear the most is that Clifton is the friendliest person they have ever met," Hunt said, reading com-

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

CAF presents murder mystery dinner theater

Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. each day and is \$3 for those age 60 and older. Milk, coffee or tea are available each day. Reservations are requested. All menu items are subject to change based on availability.

Every day, the center at 210 N. Walker St. in Marion offers billiards, card games, Wii games and the use of exercise equipment. Call the center at (270) 965-5229 for further information.

Upcoming activities and menu include:

- Today: Bible study begins at 10 a.m. Menu is pork chop, oven-brown potatoes and carrots, broccoli casserole, wheat roll and pineapple fluff.

- Friday: Bingo begins at 10:30 a.m. Menu is oven-fried chicken, baked sweet potato,

KMA collects phones for soldiers

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky Motorcycle Association District 14, which includes Crittenden, Union, Webster and Henderson counties, completed its Cell Phones for Soldiers collection drive on May 16, which is Armed Forces Day.

In 2014, KMA was able to collect 500 phones, and this year, collected another 250 used cell phones to be refurbished or recycled and used to purchase international calling cards for deployed soldiers so they will be able to call home. KMA has been collecting phones for the last several weeks through donation boxes placed in area businesses and banks and manned four drop-off locations on Armed Forces Day, one in each of the District 14 counties.

KMA is a volunteer organization dedicated to protecting the rights of all Kentucky motorcyclists and promotes motorcycle safety. The group not only lobbies for motorcyclists' rights, but also tries to do

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CAPITOL CINEMAS
203 W. Main St. • Princeton, KY
Starts Friday, May 29
Dwayne Johnson Stars In
San Andreas
PG-13
Fri. 4:15, 7, 9:15 • Sat. 1:30, 4, 7, 9:15
Sun. 1:30, 4, 7 • Mon. - Thur. 4:15, 7
Nation's Box Office #1
Tomorrowland
PG
Fri. 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 • Sat. 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:15
Sun. 1:30, 4, 7 • Mon. - Thur. 4:15, 7
Suspense Horror
Poltergeist
PG-13
Fri. 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 • Sat. 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:15
Sun. 1:30, 4, 7 • Mon. - Thur. 4:15, 7
FREE SATURDAY MOVIE
Smurfs 2
PG
Doors Open 10 a.m.
Movie Starts 10:30 a.m.
Lowest Price In First-Run Movies
SHOW INFO 270-365-7900
www.capitolcinemas.net

STAFF REPORT

An old house, an eccentric family and multiple murders take center stage as Fohs Hall Community Arts Foundation presents "Murder in the Magnolias" at 6:30 p.m. June 12 and 13 at Fohs Hall.

Set in modern times, the story focuses on an peculiar family that prefers living in the past at a dilapidated plantation house called Belle Acres, more commonly known to locals as "Belly Aches." The

family is comprised of members with many maladies, which include hearing voices in their heads and split personalities. But in the midst of all the madness, something sinister is lurking. Soon, multiple murders are discovered.

The murder mystery comedy promises a totally unexpected surprise ending and plenty of laughs to keep audiences entertained.

The production includes a cast of local talent includ-

ing Becky Tyner Belt, Phyllis Sykes, Karen Nasseri, Lynda Dennis, Frank Pierce, Mike Crabtree, Gaye Porter and B.J. Tinsley, as well as newcomers Emily Combs, Steve Watson and Brad Gilbert.

Rehearsals for the play began in March.

Belt said the cast enjoys working together and having a good sense of humor has made the experience both fun and exciting. She said being able to take on the persona of a character

is a good escape from daily life.

On June 12, Conrad's Food Store in Marion will cater a "plantation"-style meal for the mystery dinner theater. The cost is \$25 for the meal and play.

On June 13, a dessert will be served. The cost is \$17 for the dessert and play.

To reserve tickets or a table, please call Kim Vince at 270-965-0243. **No sales at the door**

Annual
Crayne Cemetery
Fish Fry
Friday, June 5
Serving Time Will Begin at 4 p.m.
Calvary Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall
Crayne, KY

Fohs Hall
Community Arts Foundation
presents...
Murder in the Magnolias
A MURDER MYSTERY PRODUCTION
Fohs Hall, Marion, KY
June 12 • 6:30 p.m. Mystery Dinner Theatre
\$25
June 13 • 6:30 p.m. Mystery Dessert Theatre
\$17
To reserve tickets or a table, please call Kim Vince at 270-965-0243. **No sales at the door**

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Youth summer meal program begins June 4

By JASON TRAVIS

STAFF WRITER

Crittenden County School District's summer food service program is back, and it's going mobile, bringing food to children in multiple locations throughout the county.

In an effort to bridge the gap once the school year ends Friday, beginning June 4 and continuing through June 30, the school district will be participating in the federal Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Administered by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), the program allows the district to provide a free lunch for kids Monday through Friday.

All children up to age 18 may participate in the program.

Food Service Director Emily Lowery said students

may take advantage of the program in two ways.

Two open sites will be available for students to come and receive a free meal next month. One site will be the Crittenden County High School multipurpose room from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The second site will be at the Tolu Community Center from 2:30 to 3 p.m.

Additionally, eight mobile sites will be set up at the following locations and times:

- Brookcliff Mobile Home Park from 11 to 11:20 a.m.

- Unity General Baptist Church from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

- Bellville Manor Apartments from 11:30 to 11:50 a.m.

- Mexico Baptist Church from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

- Creekside Apartments from noon to 12:20 p.m.

- Williams Mobile Home Park from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

- Frances Presbyterian Church from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

- Dycusburg United Methodist Church from 1:15 to 1:45 p.m.

"We are going to provide lunch. And the great thing about it is, we can actually go out into the community and take lunch to them," Lowery said.

The meal will include a sandwich, fruit, vegetable and milk.

SFSP, a program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), ensures that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session.

This summer, USDA plans to serve more than

200 million free meals to children 18 years and under at approved SFSP sites.

Almost 2 million are served in Kentucky each year.

The need locally is evident. Of the 1,431 students enrolled in Crittenden County schools, 56 percent are eligible for free or reduced meals, according to KDE.

While the food is free, Lowery said one requirement is that all children participating in the program eat at the designated site. Otherwise, if the student takes the food home, it would be considered a donated meal and the school

district could not receive reimbursements through the state food program.

Lowery said the government-funded program requires the location to be a congregate setting where individuals can eat together.

In previous years, the school district participated in the SFSP, but discontinued it due to a low turnout. However, by going mobile and bringing the food into the communities, Lowery hopes more children will participate.

She said a lack of public transportation might be to blame for more children not participating in the program previously. She said oftentimes, parents work and children may stay with grandparents who are unable to provide transportation.

The program isn't open to only children in Crittenden County. If grandparents have a grandchild from out of county or out of state visiting, a lunch can be provided for those children as well.

"Unfortunately, we do have a lot of hungry kids in the county who don't get to eat at home," Lowery said. "They only get to eat at school. So they are hungry. This will help bridge the gap, and hopefully, they won't be hungry during the summer as much. It's good for kids who do get to eat at home, but it's really good for the ones that don't get to."

Flyers have been sent home with students detailing the summer meal program and indicating designated locations and times.

Porter wins Atmos Energy yard contest

STAFF REPORT

Paula Porter of Crayne is the winner of Atmos Energy Corp.'s "Yard Rescue 811" contest, which was held in conjunction with National Safe Digging Month in April.

The contest, which awarded a \$2,000 yard makeover to Porter, was created to increase awareness of safe digging and to remind property owners, construction crews and do-it-yourselfers to stay safe by always calling 811 before digging. Contestants were asked to upload photos of their yards to the Atmos Energy Facebook page and the one who received the most votes was named winner.

"It was fun contest to do. Many of my friends had made it a part of their daily routine to log on and cast their votes for me," said Porter, a former Crittenden County High School teacher.

Porter easily dominated the Kentucky division voting.

In Kentucky, it is state law that you must call 811 in advance. Kentucky requires at least two full business days' notice before any excavation begins.

"Calling 811 is a free, convenient and efficient way to reach your state's damage-prevention, or one-call, center to have underground utility lines and pipelines marked," said Kevin Dobbs, vice-president of operations for Atmos Energy's Kentucky Division.

Each year millions of dollars in property damage,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Paula Porter of Crayne is the winner of Atmos Energy Corp.'s "Yard Rescue 811" contest. Pictured above are Atmos Energy Princeton Operations Supervisor Mike Coleman, Porter and Atmos Energy Public Affairs Manager Kay Coomes.

personal injuries, even loss of life occur because of careless digging, boring and blasting when underground facilities were not located prior to excavating, according to Kentucky811.org. With each passing year, more and more lines are being installed and the problems increase for everyone involved.

"Underground utility lines

are widespread, and just about any digging poses a danger unless all lines are located and marked in advance," Dobbs said. "Digging covers more than just professional excavating and building projects. It includes summertime home-improvement and do-it-yourself projects, such as constructing a patio or deck, building a fence,

adding trees and landscaping, installing a sprinkler system and even putting in a mail box."

Atmos Energy, headquartered in Dallas, Texas, is one of the country's largest natural-gas-only distributors, serving more than 3 million natural gas distribution customers in more than 1,400 communities in eight states.

Area heritage society to scan old photos

STAFF REPORT

Freudonia Valley Heritage Society will be having a picture scan day Saturday at Freudonia City Hall for an upcoming publication.

The purpose of this scan day is for people to bring pictures and stories of veterans to be included in the book, "Veterans of the Freudonia Valley."

This new book from the heritage society is about veterans with a connection to the Freudonia Valley, which includes a roughly 6-mile radius from Freudonia.

The scanning will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"If you or a member of your family or any of your ancestors served in any branch of the military in war time or in times of peace at any time in history, we want to include them in our book," said Pam Faughn, a member of the society's book committee.

To be included a photo, if possible, and a biography of the veteran must be submitted.

The deadline for submission of all material is Aug. 31. Any submission of more than 1,000 words may be edited.

Saturday marks the second scan day.

"We hope to receive a large number of photos on that day," Faughn said. "If you bring your photos to the scan day, your photo will be scanned, and you will not have to leave your photos. It will be done while you wait."

The preferred method to submit the written biographies is by email.

Photographs and biographies may be emailed to PamFaughn@att.net.

For further information or to reserve a copy of the book in advance, email Faughn at the above address or contact any other member of the book committee, which includes Nancy Paris, Marsha Green, Maggie Gammon, Linda Ward and Richard P'Pool.

Class of 1965 sets reunion

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County High School Class of 1965 will hold its 50th class reunion Sept. 5 at Fohs Hall beginning at 5 p.m. with a meet-and-greet. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Everyone

who attended CCHS from 1960 to 1965 is welcome to join the reunion after 7:30 p.m. to celebrate.

Call (270) 965-5003 or (270) 965-3332 for more information or check Facebook.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY
HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER
wants to congratulate the CCHS Softball Team for winning the District Tournament.

Special congratulations to our employee Kyhla Moss!



Attention Parents!

Hurricane Youth Camp

JUNE 8-13, 2015

Camp Arrival • June 8 at 10:00 a.m.
Camp Departure • June 13 at 9:00 a.m.

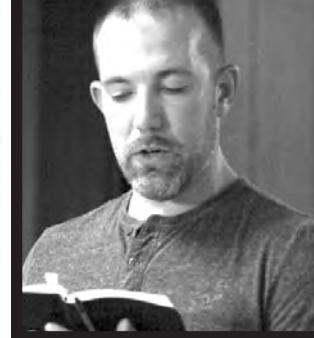
Evangelist, Chris Brantley
*Campers must have completed 2nd grade.

Cost is \$150
Day Camp Fee \$135

Registration deadline is May 29, 2015. Limited space is available. Mail your registration form to:
Mandi Gardner; 184 Wilson Farm Rd., Marion, KY 42064 or call 704-5216 for more information.

Camper's Name _____ Name Used _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Grade Entering Fall _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Birthdate _____
Parent's Name _____ Phone: Home _____ Office _____
Emergency Contact (not parent) _____ Phone: Home _____ Office _____
Doctor's Name _____ Phone: Home _____ Office _____
Circle T-Shirt Size: Youth S M L XL Adult S M L XL

127th Hurricane Camp
MEETING JUNE 8-14 • 7 P.M.

Non-Denominational Old-Fashioned Revival
Nightly Music Provided by Local Churches
Featuring a performance by

- Monday, June 8 SALEM BAPTIST
- Tuesday, June 9 MARION BAPTIST
- Wednesday, June 10 WALNUT GROVE
- Thursday, June 11 YOUTH NIGHT
- Friday, June 12 GEORGE HOLLIS
- Saturday, June 13 THE STONE FAMILY
- Sunday, June 14 HURRICANE & TOLU CHURCHES

Dining Hall Opens 5:30 p.m. \$8.50
Mon., June 8 - Bar-B-Q Pork
Tue., June 9 - Meatloaf
Wed., June 10 - Pork Tenderloin
Thur., June 11 - Country Ham Breakfast
Fri., June 12 - Fish Fry
Sat., June 13 - Open Face Roast Beef
Sun., June 14 - Fried Chicken & Ham
Salad, Vegetables & Dessert Included Each Night

YOUTH CAMP
June 8-13
Call (270) 704-5216 for more information

Camp Phone (270) 965-9307
Hurricane Church Rd.

Directions: Take KY 1668 (Crittenden Spring Rd) to its end at KY 135 turn left, go approx. 1 mile to Hurricane Church Rd.

Sports

The Crittenden Press

The Press Online

The-Press.com

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TRACK

Lucas is 17th, 21st at state; Sitar 19th

STAFF REPORT

Freshman Aaron Lucas finished 17th in the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Class A Track and Field Meet's 3200-meter run Saturday at Lexington to pace a contingent of three Crittenden County athletes participating in the state championships.

Lucas finished the race in 11:01.47, about a minute and a half off the winning pace of Louisville's Matthew Bode, who was a surprising champion in the two-mile run. A handful of others had qualified with faster regional times than the winner.

For Lucas, the top 20 finish completes an incredible journey for a first-year track athlete. He also took 21st in the state 1600 meters.

The 15-year-old was the First Region champion two-miler. At Lexington, he ran 11 seconds faster in the 3200 than he did to win the region a week earlier at Murray. The state record for the 3200 meters is 9:07.17.

Lucas finished the mile run at 5:01.53 just over a half a minute behind the winner, Villa Madonna Academy's Eric Baugh at 4:26.97. Baugh is one of the country's top high school milers. The Class A state record for the 1600 is 4:09.99, set two years ago.

Crittenden's Margaret Sitar finished 19th in the girls' Class A 1600 meters. Her run of 6:18.67 was just over a minute behind the championship time of 5:13.91.

The junior distance runner was the 1600-meter First Region champion a week earlier.

Colby Watson, who went into the state finals as the highest ranking Crittenden athlete, failed to make a recorded height in the high jump event. The senior was a two-time state qualifier in the event and his last attempt was 5-foot-8. He jumped 5-6 to finish second in the First Region Meet, which qualified him for state. The state champion's leap was 6-4.

OUTDOORS

Hunting seasons

Squirrel	May 16 - June 19
Groundhog	Year Round
Coyote Daytime	Year Round
Coyote Lights Night	Feb 1 - May 31

Benefit fishing event

There will be a benefit fishing tournament on Sunday, May 31 on the Ohio River. Registration is from 5-6 a.m. at Berry's Ferry Boat Ramp in Livingston County. All proceeds benefit Mason Fuller, a boy in the community in need of long-term medical care. Cost is \$60 per boat. It is sponsored by Carrsville Masonic Lodge. For more information, call 270-704-1920 or 270-969-0919.

BASEBALL

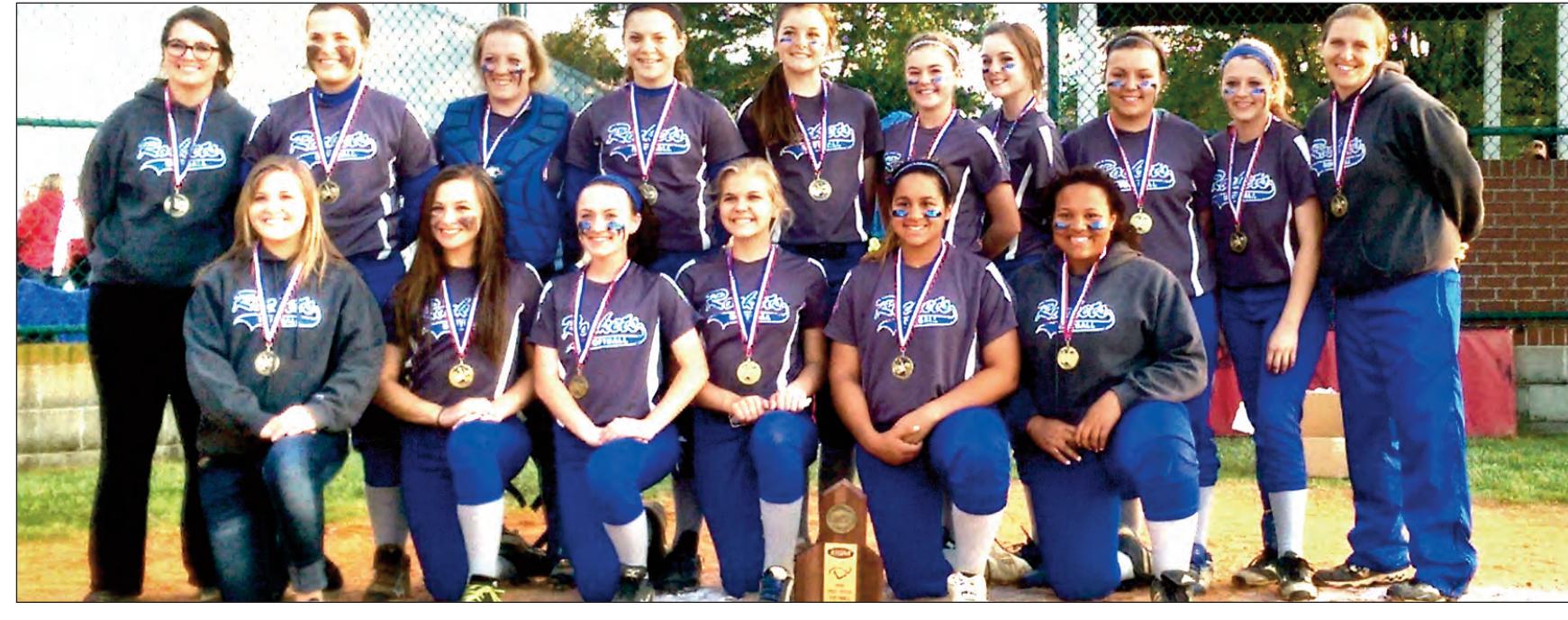
Driver, Robinson stars

Crittenden County High School baseball players Adam Driver and Shelby Robinson were named to the All Fifth District Baseball Team last week. Driver is a senior pitcher and first baseman. He was all region last year. Robinson has led the team in batting all season. He is a junior infielder. The Rockets were eliminated from post-season play with a 2-1 loss to Trigg in the district tourney.

SOFTBALL

Four named all district

Crittenden County High School's fast-pitch softball team had four players make the All Fifth District Team. Senior Khyla Moss, junior Kali Travis, sophomore Cassidy Moss and freshman Kaitlyn Hicks were those selected. Khyla Moss is an infielder and one of the team's top 5 batters. Cassidy Moss is a stellar pitcher and had a team-best .301 batting average going into this week's regional play. Travis is an outfielder and hit .210 and drove in 13 runs. Hicks had a team best 19 RBIs going into the regional and the team's second best batting average.



Rocket girls capture first ever title

Crittenden upsets top-seeded Lyon in 5th finale; Lady Rockets face Henderson in 2nd Region

STAFF REPORT

A wet Memorial Day gave Crittenden County a few more hours to simply savor its achievements without the worry of loading its hands against one of the best teams in western Kentucky in the opening round of the Second Region Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament.

Crittenden beat defending regional champion Livingston Central 4-1 last week to open Fifth District play then knocked off Lyon County 2-1 for the Lady Rockets' first-ever district tournament crown. The girls have qualified for their third ever regional tournament berth.

Despite having just four upper-classmen on the entire roster, CCHS (17-13) has woven together its best softball season ever, setting a record for wins and making its strongest post-season bid of all time.

The Lady Rockets are celebrating their 20th season of fast-pitch softball and so far it's been a banner

year. The Lady Rockets had snuck into the regional tournament just twice previously, in 1995 and 2010, both times as a district runnerup.

This time, CCHS is going into the regional tournament as district champion, but as it turns out, the tournament draw wasn't too kind. Crittenden plays Henderson County in Thursday's opening round at Hopkins Central. The tournament was originally scheduled to start Monday, but wet fields postponed play until tomorrow.

Henderson (16-12) lost 5-4 to 11th-ranked Union County in the Sixth District championship game last week.

"I think we're always ready to play, but the rain did give us a chance to let all of this sink in a little more," said coach Cheyanne Warriner.

Thursday's regional softball opener is a rematch between two teams that played a lopsided game two months ago. Crittenden lost

16-0 at Henderson County back at the end of March when the Lady Rockets were struggling through a four-game skid – its longest losing streak of the season. That was the team's worst loss of the year.

"We're a completely different team than we were back then," the coach said. "Our girls know that."

In the district championship last Thursday, Cassidy Moss tripled to lead off the game, then scored Crittenden's first run. The Lady Rockets added another in the second inning when designated hitter Ellie Smith singled, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Courtney Beverly then scored on an error.

The Lady Rockets got just two more runners on base the rest of the game against Lyon hurler Sophie Bingham, who faced just 13 batters over the last 4 innings.

Lyon County's only run came in the fifth when McKenzie Melton reached on an error and scored after 2 straight Lyon singles. Moss worked out of that jam with 2 on and saved the victory by getting the next six Lyons in order.

Moss fanned 10 and walked none in a stellar pitching performance.

2ND REGION TOURNAMENT

at Hopkins Central, Morton's Gap

TUESDAY'S QUARTERFINALS

Union County 4, Lyon County 0

THURSDAY'S QUARTERFINALS

Crittenden vs. Henderson, 6pm

Christian Co. vs. Caldwell Co, 8pm

FRIDAY'S SEMIFINALS

Critt/Henderson vs. Christian/Caldwell, 6pm

Union County vs. Madisonville, 8pm

SATURDAY'S GAME

Championship, noon

CCHS had 4 hits in the game. Cassidy Moss had 2, Smith 1 and Caylee Wolf 1.

Warriner said her team is hitting its stride at the right time to take on a team like Henderson.

"This is the time to peak. You never want to hit your peak early in the season," Warriner said.

*Note: The Press earlier reported that 9 wins were the previous most in a single season. Further research has shown that Crittenden won 11 games in 1995 under coach Shannon Hodge, in the first season of fast-pitch softball for CCHS.

Sharp Shooter

Young signs with WKCTC

STAFF REPORT

A short memory made Landon Young a college basketball player.

The Crittenden County High School senior signed a letter of intent last week to play basketball at West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC).

Young, 18, graduates this week from CCHS and will pursue an education in business and finance. He hopes to become a bank manager.

As a senior, Young blossomed as a Rocket basketball player. He scored 462 points, averaged more than 16 a game and led the team in scoring, assists, steals, three-pointers made and foul shooting percentage. He scored 39 points in one game against Caldwell County last season, ranking him among the top 10 best single-game performances of all time.

For his career at Crittenden County, Young finished 28th on the all-time scoring list with 718 points.

Young was a tireless worker during the offseason. He made himself a top-notch player, his high school coach Denis Hodge said. But it was his confidence that made the difference.

"I had confidence in my shot," Young said last week right before signing his college letter. "Shooters have to have a short memory. If you miss, you just move on to the next shot."

Coach Daniel Potts, who has been skipper of the WKCTC squad for the past four years, says Young is a team leader and a good teammate. He saw those traits while watching Young last season.

"I liked the way he handled himself on the court. He is wise beyond his years," the coach said. "And he is a great person off the court and that is the type of player we want to draw into our program."

The basketball program at WKCTC is 10 years old. Tim Hill and Payton Croft, CCHS alumni, both played on the inaugural season. The school had basketball many years ago when it was known as Paducah Community College. In fact, the team won a national championship in 1969. However, financial concerns prompted the community college to scuttle its basketball team for more than a decade until it was resurrected in 2005.

Coach Potts said his team plays a 30-game schedule that includes NAIA and junior college opponents. The independent West Kentucky Stars play Shawnee Junior College, Southeast Illinois College, Wabash Valley, Dyersburg State, John A.



On signing day Friday, Landon Young (center front) was flanked by his father and mother, Kevin Young and Casey Baker, (back) Rocket coach Denis Hodge, WKCTC team mentor Justin Hill and WKCTC coach Daniel Potts.

Logan and others from across the region.

Justin Hill, another former Rocket basketball player, is a team mentor for the WKCTC squad. Hill is a school counselor at WKCTC.

Young has been playing basketball since he joined the Upward program at Eddyville at age five. Back then, it was one of the few places a young player could find a competitive game. He played alongside many others from Caldwell and Lyon counties – players he

would compete against in high school.

Later, coach Hodge formed a travel team for which Young played and then the two were back together in high school.

When Young wasn't practicing basketball on his own or with teammates, he spent countless hours playing against older players in pickup games at two church gyms in Fredonia.

"That helped me, too," he said.



The Rockets 14-under middle school baseball team traveled to Nashville May 7 to watch Vanderbilt vs. Florida in Southeastern Conference baseball action. The Rockets ended their season on a seven-game winning streak. The club finished 10-8 while beating all of their traditional Fifth District opponents at least one time during the season. The team is not affiliated with the school system, but is a developmental team for future high school players.

The Rockets 14u middle school baseball team would like to thank our parents and the following for a successful season:

KB Pharmacy of Marion,
Clinic Pharmacy of Salem
Farmers Bank and Trust
Miles LP Gas

Jeff Porter, Umpire Coordinator
Micheal Lynch, PA announcer
Coaching Staff

12U BASEBALL STANDINGS

North Division	W	L	GB
Crittenden White Sox	4	1	-
Crittenden Brewers	3	2	1
Crittenden Cardinals	2	2	2.5
Dawson Reds	2	2	2.5
Crittenden Blue Jays	0	4	3.5

South Division	W	L	GB
Lyon Orioles	5	0	-
Lyon Red Sox	3	0	1
Caldwell Marlins	3	2	2
Caldwell Dodgers	1	5	4.5
Caldwell Pirates	0	5	5

10U BASEBALL STANDINGS

	W	L	GB
Lyon Yankees	3	0	-
Caldwell Braves	3	1	0.5
Lyon Dodgers	2	1	1
Crittenden Cardinals	2	2	1.5
Caldwell Rangers	1	1	1.5
Dawson Giants	1	1	1.5
Crittenden Blue Jays	1	2	2
Caldwell Diamondbacks	1	3	2.5
Dawson Rockies	0	3	3

8U BASEBALL STANDINGS

	W	L	GB
Caldwell Rangers	4	0	-
Crittenden Dodgers	3	0	0.5
Dawson Cubs	3	0	0.5
Lyon Red Sox	2	1	1.5
Caldwell Athletics	1	2	2.5
Caldwell Pirates	1	2	2.5
Caldwell White Sox	1	2	2.5
Caldwell Yankees	1	2	2.5
Crittenden Cardinals	1	2	2.5
Lyon Rockies	1	2	2.5
Dawson Mets	0	2	3
Lyon Giants	0	3	3.5

12U SOFTBALL STANDINGS

	W	L	GB
Caldwell Yankees	2	0	-
Caldwell Cubs	1	0	0.5
Lyon Reds	1	1	1
Dawson Braves	0	1	1.5
Crittenden Cardinals	0	2	2

10U SOFTBALL STANDINGS

	W	L	GB
Caldwell Rays	2	0	-
Caldwell Dodgers	3	1	-
Crittenden Angels	1	1	1
Dawson Red Sox	1	1	1
Lyon Cardinals	1	1	1
Caldwell Blue Jays	1	2	1.5
Crittenden Giants	0	3	2.5

8U SOFTBALL STANDINGS

	W	L	GB
Caldwell Dodgers	4	0	-
Caldwell Athletics	3	1	1
Crittenden Angels	3	1	1
Dawson Pirates	2	2	2
Caldwell Rangers	1	1	2
Lyon Cardinals	0	1	2.5
Crittenden White Sox	1	3	3
Caldwell Rays	0	5	4.5

Standings as of Sunday, May 24

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WEEK
3

8U BASEBALL LEAGUE

RESULTS FROM MONDAY, MAY 18

AT PRINCETON
Dawson Cubs.....326 0 — 11
Caldwell Athletics.....011 0 — 2
Cubs leading hitters: Micah Washburn 1B; Dakota Berry 1B, HR; Ashton Rawlins 1B, 3B; Kolby Crook 1B, 2B; Ashton Cook 1B; Gabe Thomas 1B; Colton 1B, 1B; Kaleb Smith 1B, 2B; Josh Pace 1B, 1B.

Athletics leading hitters: Graham Grissom 1B; J.T. Palm 1B; Logan Brown 1B; Cody Pruitt 1B; Case Orrt 1B; Xander Sample 1B.

Lyon Giants.....000 010 — 1
Caldwell Rangers.....120 20x — 5
Giants leading hitters: Issac Defew 1B, 1B; Johnson Herring 1B; Justice Harvey 1B, 2B.

Rangers leading hitters: Chase Lantrip 2B, 3B; Gus Fox 1B; Kaden Heaton 1B, 1B; Dominique White 1B, 1B; Sutton Ritchey 3B; Cason Littlejohn 1B; Pax Aikins 1B; Max Heaton 1B, 1B.

AT MARION
Yankees at Dodgers, PPD
Pirates at Cardinals, PPD

AT DAWSON SPRINGS
Red Sox at Mets, PPD

AT EDDYVILLE
White Sox at Rockies, PPD

RESULTS FROM THURSDAY, MAY 21

AT PRINCETON
Crittenden Giants.....012 2 — 5
Caldwell Dodgers.....223 x — 7
Giants leading hitters: Aubre Conyer 1B, 1B; Jaylee Champion 1B; Brylee Conyer 1B, 1B; Addison Mundy 1B; Kailyn Stokes 1B; Kaylee Hewitt 1B; Sophie Watson 1B.

Dodgers leading hitters: Lexie Teague 1B, 2B; Kennedy Hughes 1B, 2B; Kynady Thomas 1B, 1B, 2B; Laney Frisch 1B; Tallie Branch 1B; Laynee Cannon 1B, 1B; Ella Beshear 1B.

AT MARION
Rays at Angels, PPD
Blue Jays at Angels, PPD

AT DAWSON SPRINGS
Rays at Red Sox, PPD

10U SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RESULTS FROM MONDAY, MAY 18

AT PRINCETON
Lyon Dodgers.....204 1 — 7
Caldwell Braves.....402 0 — 6

WP: Jonathan Downing **LP:** Easton Kizze

Dodgers leading hitters: Branden Ray 1B; Jonathan Downing 1B; Walker Sutor 1B.

Braves leading hitters: Cofy Harris 2B; Easton Kizze 1B.

Lyon Yankees.....026 6 — 14
Caldwell Diamondbacks.....200 0 — 2

WP: Luke Burchett **LP:** Nate Noel

Yankees leading hitters: Jacob Peek 1B; Luke Burchett 1B, 2B; Conner Stovall 1B; Peyton Carney 1B, 1B.

Diamondbacks leading hitters: Parker Dixon 1B.

Caldwell Dodgers.....200 020 — 4
Caldwell Marlins.....200 102 — 5

WP: Braxton Hubbard **LP:** Landon Pace

Dodgers leading hitters: Blake Vivrette 1B; Landon Pace 1B, 1B; Russ Beshear 2B; Devin Kilgore 1B, 1B; Cole Smiley 1B.

Marlins leading hitters: Preston Nichols 1B, 1B, 2B; Nick White 1B, HR; Ian Wall 1B.

AT MARION
Blue Jays at Brewers, PPD
White Sox at Cardinals, PPD

8U SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RESULTS FROM TUESDAY, MAY 19

AT PRINCETON
Dawson Pirates.....000 050 — 5

Caldwell Athletics.....020 301 — 6

Pirates leading hitters: Gracie Barnett 1B; Bailee Coates 1B, 1B; Alanna Harris 1B, 1B; Tallie Rae Robinson 1B, 1B; Kylee Hancock 2B, 2B; Kailey Adamson 1B; Kaylee Sargent 1B.

Athletics leading hitters: Abigail Graham 1B, 1B; Maci Tyler 1B, 1B, 1B; Ella Patterson 1B, 1B, 1B; Laney Beshear 1B; Ja'Khia Copeland 1B, 1B; Ke'Darriah Thompson 1B, 1B, 1B; Jennifer Wright 1B.

Dawson Pirates.....010 013 — 5
Caldwell Rays.....000 011 — 2

Pirates leading hitters: Hailey Oldham 1B, 1B; Alanna Harris 1B; Millie Cotton 1B; Ruby Jade Hilt 3B; Gracy Haynes 2B, 3B; Bailee Coates 3B; Madison Brandon 1B, 1B; Gracie Barnett 1B, 1B; Kyleigh Vinson 1B.

Rays leading hitters: Jackie Farmer 1B, 1B, 1B; Adley Lewis 1B; Morgan Aikins 1B, 1B, 1B; Chelsea Krauss 1B; Marissa Smith 1B; Davani Williams 1B.

AT MARION
Caldwell Dodgers.....040 063 — 13

Crittenden Angels.....230 111 — 8

Dodgers leading hitters: Lilly Perry

1B, 2B; Hannah Lowery 1B, 1B; Ashlee Ladd 1B, 1B; Kaylee Ladd 1B, 1B, 2B; Harper Holeman 1B, 1B; Allie Holt 1B, 1B; Jordan Orrt 1B, 1B, 2B; Avery Wells 1B, 1B; Nyia Sykes 1B.

Angels leading hitters: Kaliegh Weathers HR; Jaycee Champion 1B, 1B, 2B; Taylor Haire 1B, 3B; Mia Hackney 1B; Layla Winn 1B, HR; Sophie Holliman 1B; Georgia Holeman 1B.

Caldwell Dodgers.....632 6 — 17
Crittenden White Sox.....000 2 — 2

Dodgers leading hitters: Not available.

White Sox leading hitters: Elliot Evans 1B; Andrea Federico 1B.

RESULTS FROM FRIDAY, MAY 22

AT MARION
Crittenden Angels.....160 31 — 11

Crittenden White Sox.....000 00 — 0

Angels leading hitters: Georgia Holeman 1B; Jaycee Champion 1B, 2B; Kayleigh Weathers 1B, 2B; Taylor Haire 1B, 3B, HR; Layla Winn 3B; Sierra Patrick 1B; Mia Hackney 1B; Hanna Mott 1B, 1B, 2B; Abigail Martin 1B, 1B, 2B; Mary Rachel Stephens 1B, 2B; Sophia Holliman 1B, 2B.

White Sox leading hitters: Dixie Hunter 1B.

AT DAWSON SPRINGS
Athletics at Mets, PPD
Giants at Cubs, PPD

PLEASE REPORT SCORES AFTER EACH

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The Crittenden Press

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All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

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Sale on Porta/Grace number 1 metal roofing, siding and trim. 40-year warranty. Available in 16 colors. Call for low prices, Gray's, (270) 365-7495. (13-03-p)

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agriculture

New Holland 851 round baler. (270) 635-1873. (3t-47-p)

automotive

Proceed to sell 2006 Hyundai Sonata, vin# 5NPEU45F96H109498 and 1984 Dodge pickup, vin# B7GW14T8ES236429 on June 4, 2015 at Hunter Auto Sales and Service, 848 E. Main, Salem Ky. Sale price consists of towing charges and storage fees. (3t-48-c)

2002 Ford truck, 38,000 miles, \$7,000 obo; 2003 GMC red truck, 143,000 miles, 4x4, asking \$7,000; no rust, no wrecks, nice trucks. H.M. Roni Asbridge, (270) 965-5315. (3t-47-p)

real estate

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for rent

2 BR mobile home with appliances and free garbage pickup. (270) 704-0877. (1t-47-p)

2 BR, 2 bath apartments for rent, must meet income/disability guidelines, call Quad County Housing. (270) 886-7171. (2t-48-c)pc

3 BR, 2 bath, central heat and air, stove and refrigerator, trash pickup and yard maintenance. \$465/mo. (270) 704-3234. (tfc)je

employment

Mow Pro Inc. is hiring part-time help for mowing and weeding, experience required. (270) 969-0739. (2t-48-c)

Full-time mechanical maintenance & operations supervisor position available at the Dept. of Corrections, Western KY Correctional Complex located in Lyon County, Kentucky. Supervises the mechanical maintenance and operation of the entire physical plant at a multi-building correctional facility with a resident population of 250, or the entire physical plant at a multi-building state office complex; Strong supervisory and computer skills required. Performs other duties as required. Applicants and employees in this classification may be required to submit to a drug screening test and background check. Minimum requirements: High school graduate. Must have five years of experience in general building maintenance or five years' experience in the maintenance and/or repair of air conditioning, heating, refrigeration, ventilation equipment or electrical systems. This experience must include two years of either mechanical, heating, ventilation, air conditioning or electrical systems maintenance and also include two years of supervisory/coordination maintenance experience. Formal training in one of the above or related fields will substitute for the non-supervisory experience on a year-for-year basis. Experience in one of the above or related fields will substitute for the education on a year-for-year basis. Salary \$29,129.28 - \$38,588.64 yearly at 37.5 hour work week. Complete an application online at <http://careers.ky.gov> thru May 31, 2015. Contact Betty Woodward at (270) 388-9781 with any questions. Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D. (1t-47-c)

Due to business expansion Thornton Trucking has openings for experienced truck drivers, day shift, Class A CDL's or Class B required and 2 years experience. Apply at Thornton's Auto Parts located at 1197 Ky. 109, Sturgis, Ky., or call Don Morse at (270) 997-1416. (2t-48-c)

Help wanted: Heavy equipment operators and haul truck drivers. Our company has long-term projects in the surrounding areas. MSHA Part 46 & 48 training required, we can help with proper training if needed. Competitive wages. Send resume to: Pollard & Sons Excavating, 200 Pond River Collieries Road, Madisonville Ky., 42431. email: info@pollardandsons.com or fax: (270) 821-6122. (4t-47-p)

The Heritage at Marion Country Club is accepting applications for certified lifeguards. Contact Gary McConnell for more information. (270) 704-1324. (3t-46-p)

Notice is hereby given that on May 6, 2015 William E. Dalton, 147 Chapman Circle, Greenfield, Ind., 46140 and John Jeffrey Dalton, 309 Vermont Street, Paducah, Ky. 42003 were appointed co-executors of John Edward Dalton, deceased, whose address was 1352 Ky. 723 North Marion, Ky. 42064. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executor with will annexed on or before the 6th day of November, 2015 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Garage sale, 110 Harmon Dr., Greenwood Heights, Fri. and Sat., 8 a.m.-?, hand tools, clothes, western books and other, lots of misc. (1t-47-p)

Half-price sale at St. William Catholic Church, Sat., 9-11 a.m., clothing \$1 and \$2 a bag.

Benefit yard sale for Jessie Mathieu, missionary in Haiti, all proceeds go to support mission work. May 29th and 30th, 7 a.m.-5 p.m., 5925 U.S. 641, Marion, Ky., next to Rite Temp. (2t-47-p)

services

Bingham Pressure Washing, housing, buildings, garages, etc. Free estimates, call (270) 704-2585. (1t-47-p)

Debris removal, buildings cleaned out, small teardowns, tree work, debris cleanup. Pick up truck with lift gate. (270) 988-1958. (2t-10-c)db

notices

Public Notice

Notice to all sportsmen: All properties known as Wanda Pauline or Beverly Herrin, LLC that are under the management of Don Herrin are closed to hunting of all types, fishing and trespassing. This is due to an excessive reduction in wildlife and unknown trespassing. Written permission from Don Herrin is required from any individual who may have business reasons to be on said property. (2t-48-c)dh

Bid Notice

The Crittenden County Extension Office is currently seeking general contractors to submit estimates on remodeling. Please stop by the Extension Office during normal business hours for more information or call (270) 965-5236. (1t-47-c)

Legal Notice

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Crittenden District Court
Melissa Guill, Clerk (1t-47-p)

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yard sales

Final moving sale, Thurs. and Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 65 Penn Dr. (1t-47-p)

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★ Memorial Day 2015 ★

PHOTOS BY JASON TRAVIS AND DARYL K. TABOR, THE PRESS

As usual, Crittenden County marked Memorial Day weekend with services across the county paying homage to the American soldiers, sailors and airmen who died while serving their country.

At the Blackford Veterans Memorial Trail on Saturday, Crittenden County native Brig. Gen. Scott A. Campbell of the Kentucky National Guard returned home as the featured speaker for the 10th annual Memorial Day service at the remote veterans park. It was Campbell's first visit to the site conceived by Brent Witherspoon, a Vietnam veteran who over the years has poured countless hours and dollars into keeping his dream alive. Campbell, who has seen tours of duty in Bosnia and Iraq, reminded those in attendance of the purpose of Memorial Day. "Freedom is not free," he said. "It has a cost." And that cost is 1.3 million American lives lost while in uniform. "Let's dedicate ourselves to never forgetting their sacrifice." As usual, Hopkins County Central High School Air Force Junior ROTC assisted with the ceremonial flag duties. After the service, many people browsed the Walk of Honor pavers engraved with the names of veterans.

Shady Grove Cemetery hosted 5th Judicial Circuit Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers Monday for her first Memorial Day address. Rogers, too, spoke of the importance of remembering the sacrifices others have made toward the cause of freedom. "It's because of their heroism that every time I open my Bible or speak in public I can do so without fear of persecution," she said.

The threat of rain Monday forced American Legion Post 111 in Marion to move its ceremony from the war memorial at Mapleview Cemetery to the confines of Fohs Hall, but the change of venue did not discourage local patriots. The floor of Fohs Hall was crammed with onlookers who listened to former Army Ranger Denis Hodge give voice to our nation's fallen heroes. "If they were here today, they would challenge us to be unapologetic for our religious values, because that's what they died for. They would challenge us to do what is right, be courageous and defend those who are oppressed. And they would challenge us to find the hero in ourselves. The local Boy Scout troop assisted with flag duties at the annual ceremony.



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